Missing Page

2 JANUARY 1888

1, 2

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

New Year's parade, morning.
Novelty Theatre, Norville's Company, 9 p.m.
Chiarini's Circus, 9 p.m.
Band, B. V. R. Corps, Esplanade Bandstand, 5-30 p.m.
Band, E. Y. Regt. Colaba Bandstand, 5-30 p.m.

VESSELS ARRIVED.—The following vessels arrived on the 31st :—Lepanto (s), from Hull; Keerata Roodrin (barque), Poonany (s) and Poseidon (s), China. Yesterday :—Orion (s), from Trieste.

VESSELS SAILED.—The following vessels sailed on the 31st :—H. M. S. Crocodile, for Portsmouth; Sierra Miranda (ship), Rangoon; and Glen Caladh (barque), Chittagong.

BOMBAY PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—There will be no practice to-day. Practices will be resumed regularly from Thursday, 5th January.

ALLEGED COLLISION AT SEA.—Ahmed Ebrahim, the tindal of a gotiah, named Fateh Moobaruck, which arrived in this harbour on Friday, reported to the Water Police authorities that his vessel came into collision with a pattimar that sailed from Bombay for Calicut on the 28th ultimo, while off a place called Aboon on the coast, whereby his vessel sustained damages to the extent of Rs. 500.

FOUND DROWNED.—An inquest was held by the coroner on Saturday, at the Morgue, Camateespoora, touching the death of a Hindoo man, whose body was found lying on the rocks, at the Kennedy Sea-face, opposite the Marine Line Railway Station, on Friday evening last. The body was that of a leper mendicant, about 50 years of age. An open verdict was recorded.

REPORTED THEFT.—Narayen Dewjee, living at Nagpada, reported to the police the theft of gold and silver ornaments, valued at Rs 74. Upon enquiries instituted by the police a man named Narrayen Dhurmajee, a noted thief, who lived in the same house as the complainant, appeared to have absconded from Bombay to his native village, Chandgaum, after pledging the stolen property with a Marwarree in the native town.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—An inquest was held by the coroner yesterday, at the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, touching the death of Jewraj Esaujee, who was a day-labourer employed on board the P. and O. steamship Hydaspes. On the 17th November last, deceased met with an accident while at work on board that vessel. He died from its effects on Saturday night last. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

MUSIC AT THE ESPLANADE BANDSTAND.—the following programme of music will be played by the band of the B. V. R. Corps at the Esplanade Bandstand this evening, commencing at 5-30 :—

Overture	The Bohemian Girl	Balfe.
Valse	Love's Dreamland	Otto Roeder.
Selection	Alzira	Verdi.
Gavotte	The First Kiss	Schubert.
Lancers	The Mayflower	Liddell.
Mazurka	Lalla Rookh	Ettling.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

MUSIC AT THE COLABA BANDSTAND.—The band of the 2nd East Yorkshire Regt. will play the following programme of music at the Colaba Bandstand this evening, commencing at 5-30 :—

March	The Warrior's Last Farewell	Keely.
Lancers	Trial by Jury	D'Albert.
Selection	Robert Bruce	Bonniseau.
Valse	Dorothy	Boucalossi.
Fantasia	Auf den Alpen	Herfurth.
Galop	Reiter	Gung'l.

HOUSEBREAKING AND THEFT.—Abdool Kurreem Shikjee, a Calassee, was on Saturday charged by Inspector Jones, before Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee, with housebreaking and theft of property consisting of gold and silver ornaments and four currency notes for Rs. 35, of the collective value of Rs. 1,668, belonging to Abdool Kurreem Emam, a dealer in eggs, from his residence at Temkur Mohla, on the 27th ult. The case for the prosecution was that during the absence of the complainant from his house, the back-door was broken open, and from a chest-of-drawers the property was stolen. On the matter being reported to the police, a man named Abdool Rahimon handed over four currency notes which he had received from the accused, three for Rs. 10 each and one for Rs. 5, and pointed out the spot where the accused had buried the stolen property. Immediately after the accused was arrested, he acknowledged the theft. He was sentenced to eighteen months' rigorous imprisonment.

RAINFALL ON B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY.

WE are favoured with the total actual rainfall registered during 28th, 29th, and 30th of December, 1887, at the following stations on the B. B. & C. I. Railway :—

	Cents.
Vaiturna	3
Palgar	25
Golwad	40
Damaun	17
Buisar	17
Surat	8
Kim	4
Ahmedabad	20
Veerumgaum	25
Wudwan	52
Dakore	75
Sevalia	76
Godhra	75

There was no rain at Nowsarree, Broach, Baroda, and Dilla'no.

THE BOMBAY FOXHOUNDS.

THE meet on Wednesday, 28th December, was at the Kennels at Worlee, and was not productive of much sport. A jackal was found on the hill, and after a dragging sort of a run was lost in the Mahim woods; and afterwards a line was hit off on the flats, across which the field had a smart spin, but the hounds failed to account for their jackal, which sought shelter in the Railway Workshops at Parel and so saved his brush.

Saturday, 31st December.—A southerly wind and cloudy sky proclaimed it a hunting morning. So cloudy in fact, that after the previous day's rain, many of us feared a fresh downpour, and expected to find the country rather heavy-going. We were agreeably disappointed, however, for although in very low-lying ground we occasionally came across a marshy bit, most of the country we went over was in first-rate order and all the better for the rain. The meet was at Andheri, and considering how many members of the Hunt are absent from Bombay, the field mustered pretty strong, about five and twenty all told. Chuckla covert was drawn without any result, the morning was hot and chokey, and although there ought to have been plenty of scent all where were a jackal in covert, not a hot hound gave a whimper, and some of us feared that we were in for a blank day, an almost unheard-of event now in the annals of the Bombay Hunt. When Chuckla had been thoroughly drawn and found tenantless, the Master trotted the pack off towards Saar, and shortly before reaching Saar Hill hit on the line of a traveller, which began by giving us a first-rate spin across the Pargion ground. If he had only continued as he began we should all have been more than satisfied, but after taking us over a niceish line past Parla, crossed the railway between Parla and Irla. Some of us followed him, and some did not; he crossed and re-crossed the line, and it was not until the fourth time over the rails that we settled down to a steady gallop again in the direction of Marole. At the foot of Marole Hill, however, it was evident the pack had divided, and as we were fast approaching the impenetrable jungles, the Master called off.

The meet on Wednesday next is at Santa Cruz.

HOME REMITTANCES.

OFFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEEKLY memorandum of remittances to the Home Treasury by means of Council Bills :—

Amount to be remitted during 1887-88	£16,114,000
Remitted from 1st April 1887 to 24th Dec. 1887	£10,505,100
Balance to be remitted from 25th Dec. 1887 to 31st March, 1888	£5,608,900

VALZANIA, DISCOVERY FOR THE HAIR.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Marvellous Hair Renewer," for it will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair to its original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald heads, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your chemists for "THE MEXICAN HAIR RENEWER," sold by chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. per bottle. Sold wholesale by Anglo-American Drug Co., Limited, 33, Farringdon Road, London.

THE GONDAL-POREBUNDER RAILWAY.

WHEN railways were first introduced into Kathiawar, seven or eight years ago, it was expected by those best capable of judging that the limited length then constructed would gradually be extended until there should be formed a complete system of communication throughout the Peninsula. After the lapse of a few years it was seen that the success of the Bhownugger-Gondal Railway was assured, for it soon reached the stage of paying over four per cent. on the capital invested, while the returns showed a slow but sure increase in the value of the traffic. This encouraged other States to come forward with proposals for extensions through their territories. The construction of the Junagadh line from Jetalsar to Veraval was commenced, and a portion of it will shortly be opened for traffic. An extension from Songad to Palitana has been surveyed. A branch line to the capital of the Gondal State was contemplated and a survey commenced in 1886. But shortly before this time the mismanagement of affairs in Porebunder had resulted in the removal of the Rana, and the appointment of Mr. Lely, of the Bombay Civil Service, to the post of Administrator of that State. And one of the first matters that he brought forward and followed up with the utmost energy was a proposal that the existing railway should be extended from Dhoraji to Porebunder. The States most concerned in this extension were Gondal and Porebunder, and it was endeavoured to come to some agreement by which the cost of the line should be divided in fair proportions between them. In many respects they were naturally fitted to work together in such a matter. Gondal is an inland State, having on its western side a large and fertile cotton district not yet served by a railway or connected with a port, while Porebunder has a port already good and capable of improvement. Porebunder produces salt, of which a large quantity is required by Gondal, and there are many other points in connection with which a railway uniting the two States would prove of benefit to both. Although no final arrangement was come to at the time, it was agreed that joint action should be taken to place the matter before the Government of Bombay, and to request that Government to arrange for a survey of the proposed line. The superintendence of this work was placed in the hands of the Manager and Engineer-in-Chief of the Bhownugger-Gondal Railway, a post now filled by Major Gardiner, R. E., but at that time held by the late Mr. Henry Dangerfield. He applied for the services of an officer, of the Railway Branch of the Public Works Department, to conduct the actual work in the field, and an appointment was made but afterwards cancelled. It was not until February, 1887, that the services of Mr. Shadbolt, Executive Engineer, who was then on the Sind-Peshin Railway, were placed at the disposal of the Government of Bombay for employment on this work. He was joined by Mr. Charles Tudball, Assistant Engineer, and as soon as possible the survey party was organised at Dhoraji, and was able to commence the actual marking out of the line early in March.

It was seen from the first that two distinct routes were available. The shortest and most direct would be by Upleta, Kuntiyana and Ranawao, the total distance being somewhat under sixty miles. To the north of this route lie the Barda Hills, extending for about twenty-five miles east and west and some fifteen miles north and south. The alternative route would leave the direct line at Upleta, pass to the north of these hills, and then again, turning south, would join the other line at Ranawao, ten miles from Porebunder. Although this route involved an additional length of eight or nine miles, there were many points in its favour which finally led to its adoption. It may be stated in the first place that there is already a direct road from Dhoraji to Porebunder, metalled and bridged throughout the greater part of its length, so that the locality is supplied with one good means of communication. At the same time, owing to its natural features, this district is liable to heavy floods—most undesirable state of affairs from an engineering point of view, which would constantly endanger the safety of the line and in any case would involve a large expenditure in bridging. But independently of such questions one of the chief objects of the railway was to serve as great an area as possible of the Gondal State, and while on the direct route only about fourteen miles of line and two stations would be within its limits, on the northern route there would be about thirty miles of line and five stations. It was therefore natural that Gondal should express a decided wish for the railway to be taken in this direction and, in fact, should make the adoption of the route an essential condition of its support of the project. This point having been settled, the survey and other work connected with the scheme was pushed on, the plans and estimates were prepared and submitted to the proper authorities, and at the present time everything is ready for the immediate commencement of the construction of the line.

A pleasing feature of the survey was the friendly interest shown by the people in the work, especially in the Gondal State, and their appreciation of the benefits which they expect to derive from the opening of the railway. For instance the alignment originally proposed did not pass within a convenient distance of Upleta, but the inhabitants represented their case strongly, and at the request of the Durbar it was altered to suit them. On the occasion of a visit by one of the engineers he was taken to the top of a high building by the head man, who looked over his town with manifest pride and said :" Imagine such a place as that being left without a station". The alteration in the line at first marked out extended as far as Bhayawadar, and while it was in progress a deputation of the leading merchants of that place came to state their apprehensions that the railway was to be removed from their town altogether, and expressed their intense satisfaction when they were re-assured on this point.

In describing the actual course of the line it may be remarked that a few miles from Dhoraji the cart road is carried across the Bhadar River by the handsome Peile Bridge of eleven arches of sixty feet span, designed and constructed by Mr. Ganesh Govind, the Engineer of the Gondal State. To save a heavy outlay on a second bridge of similar magnitude, the railway will be taken over this bridge, but will afterwards follow an independent course. The first station is at Superi, and the second at Upleta, a town of over four thousand inhabitants, the majority of whom are Musalmans. After this come Bhayawadar and Paneli, both flourishing villages belonging to Gondal. At the thirtieth mile the line will cross the Vinu River and enter the territory of Nawanagar, in which it continues for 21 miles, the most important place touched being Jodhpur. The remaining 18 miles lie within the limits of Porebunder, giving a total length to the railway of 63 miles. As the capital of this State the station has been placed on the north side of the city, where there is a convenient open space which, under the fostering care of Mr. Sandford the State Engineer, is being rapidly converted by means of new roads and buildings into what will be known as the Railway Suburb. Porebunder is one of the old walled towns so characteristic of Kathiawar. Scarcely any of its narrow tortuous streets admit of the passage of a wheeled vehicle, though many of the houses are large and substantially built of stone.

In former days it was a place offering great attractions to religious mendicants, who still swarm in large numbers, but the proverbial cleanliness by no means accompanies this particular form of godliness, and has hitherto been conspicuous by its absence. Steps have however been taken to improve the ventilation and general sanitary conditions, especially by removing portions of the city wall, against which vast quantities of refuse were accumulated, and the physical and moral daylight, which is being let into its town, is already working great changes. The harbour is at present only suited for country craft of moderate size; but careful investigations are being made with a view to its improvement and extension. A large open space for the cotton brought for shipment and a convenient wharf with a sea wall of stone now occupy the place of what only a few months back was a muddy foreshore. This wharf is approached by a fine road running round the south side of the town on land reclaimed from the sea by a masonry retaining wall. The old lighthouse was in a delapidated condition and is about to be removed, the light having been already transferred to a handsome stone structure furnished with the best modern appliances. In fact, Porebunder is undergoing a complete transformation, and its awakening will be accelerated by the advent of the railway which, joined with its natural advantages, should rapidly raise it to the position of one of the best and busiest ports on the west coast of India.

CHEROOTS, choicest India, various brands, from Re. 1-8 per 100. PHILLIP and Co., Limited, Bombay and Poona.

THE VOLUNTEER SHAM-FIGHT AT GHAT COOPER.

THE annual sham-fight of the Bombay Volunteers came off last Saturday on the now-famed battle-ground of Ghat Cooper. Owing to the fact that no less than three Volunteer Corps—the Light Horse, the Artillery, and the Rifles—took part in it, the affair was of more than usual importance. An early train conveyed a strong body of Volunteers, each of the corps showing up in goodly numbers, to the scene of action. With them also went three seven-pounder guns which were to be manipulated by the Artillerymen and which had to form a strong auxiliary force to either side during the contest. The outline of the movements which had been arranged for the fight was briefly as follows. An army was supposed to be advancing from the north on Bombay and to have sent a force to occupy the old village of Coorla to make a reconnaissance on Bombay. Here it was intended the reconnoitering party should come into contact with the advanced guard from Bombay, which had been sent to oppose its progress. The southern force was to dislodge the enemy and make them retreat or fall back on their main body, and then the fall of the umpire's flag was to put an end to all further proceedings. The carrying out of the details was, of course, to be left to the commandants of each force. The reconnaissance party was under the command of Captain Hodgkinson, the Adjutant of the Rifle Corps, and consisted of one gun, ten Light-horsemen, and "C" and "D" Companies of the Rifles and the cadets. They were detrained at Ghat Cooper, with the exception of the Light-horsemen, who rode from Coorla. The members of the southern force, the advance guard of the Bombay Army, got down at the latter station. Major Roughton was in charge, and this force included "A," "B," "E," and "F" Companies of the Rifles, under the command of Captain Brown, and two guns. Shortly after each force had alighted at its respective station, the men refreshed themselves with coffee and biscuits, to brace themselves for the coming fray. As soon as Captain Brown had formed his three battalions into order outside Coorla station, he marched with the Artillery in the rear through the village of Coorla, and sent out advanced guards. On reaching the open country beyond Coorla, No. 1 and No. 3 battalions under Lieuts. Jeffries and Lund, respectively, were sent across to skirmish, with orders to take possession of the old village of Coorla, which, it had been anticipated, would have been occupied by the northern force. The main body, consisting of No 2 battalion, under Lieutenant English, and the two guns, were meanwhile placed in shelter, waiting information from the front. The skirmishers found the village unoccupied, and immediately took possession of it, and at once got into action with the northern force. Here an unfortunate error, which put the advanced guard out of touch with the main body and kept the latter without information as to the whereabouts of the enemy, nearly lost the battle to the southerners, for the northerners, who were admirably posted on the brow of a hill, opened a well-directed fire on the main body of the southern force. While the latter were getting their guns into action, the enemy, for so we may be permitted to style them, who had designs on Bombay, fired two more well-aimed shots at them. They, however, after strenuous efforts, which were at first repeatedly unsuccessful to get several fuses to work, returned the fire, but the reply was naturally feeble. However, as soon as both guns were brought properly into play, the northerners' single gun was quickly silenced, and under cover of the roar of their artillery the main body of the southerners advanced across the open country towards the village of old Coorla, from which meanwhile, their skirmishers had driven the enemy. Lieutenant Place, who was in charge of the occupants of a portion of the village, withdrew, or rather had been compelled to fall back and take up a position beyond a bend of the road at the foot of Cross Hill, where it took a curve to the right from the village. There was a short cessation of hostilities at this point of the contest, as the Artillery had to encounter a great deal of difficulty in moving across the country to join the main body, the paddy-fields and numerous nullahs affording anything but an easy task to the gunners to drag their machines over them, and it was found necessary to bring the guns again into action to follow up the advantage gained and completely dislodge the enemy. A distance of about three hundred yards separated the two forces now, but as they both kept well under cover neither party could continue the fight, the northerners being on the defensive waiting for matters to develop, and the southerners delaying till their guns were brought into position. The interval was filled up by Captain Brown in reforming his skirmishers and replenishing them with reserve ammunition. As the enemy seemed not disposed to retire further, and were well posted behind cactus hedges and in nullahs, Captain Brown detached a small party from the right of his forces, under the command of Lieutenant Lund, and directed it against the left flank of the enemy. This movement brought about the desired effect, as the northerners commenced to retire on to the hill and some high ground. A general advance was then ordered as soon as the guns came up, and instead of attempting a direct attack on the hill, efforts were made to drive the northerners off the high ground which lay on the west of the high road, and which they had possession of. The attack was made in rushes of alternate half companies, and before this advance the enemy prudently withdrew, falling back on their strong position on the hill. They placed their solitary gun in a beautiful spot with a clear range, and Captain Brown found it would be impossible to deliver a direct and effective attack without a much larger force than that which he had available. It was open to him, of course, to force the west side of their position, but this attack, even to be made successful, would have resulted in a heavy loss to the assailants. However, before the southerners could decide what to do, the umpire's flag was lowered, and the bugle sounded the cease fire, the enemy having kept up till then a desultory fire on the advancing force. The state of affairs at the cease fire was just as it had been planned. The northern force had been driven back to their position on the hill, and not taken by the southern. Such had been the tactics adopted by Captain Brown. Captain Hodgkinson's movements, or rather those of his force, were, according to arrangements, very simple. It had been his object to make a reconnaissance on Bombay, and to do this effectually, "C" and "D" companies under Capt. Place with one gun, and the Light-horsemen acting as scouts under Captain Little, were sent to occupy the old village of Coorla. This they found in possession of the southern force, and a sharp fight ensued. The northerners were forced to retire slowly, keeping up a hot fire as they did so, and took up a defensive position on the hill. Secure here, the southern force attempted to dislodge them, but after they had driven them off some high ground on the east of the high road, the southerners desisted making a general attack, as they were too weak to effectually do so. Having thus followed each force through its adventures, it may be said that the guns had been rendered practically useless during the early part of the day, owing to the friction fuses, which had been served to the gunners, being very bad ones. It was the general opinion that the Ordnance authorities had put a large quantity of their condemned fuses to the best use they possibly could. About ten per cent. of the fuses were utterly useless—a really bad state of things, when it is remembered that at one time Captain Brown's force had nearly been annihilated, owing to his inability to reply to a few well-directed shots from the northern seven-pounder, with which the same difficulty had been experienced with regard to the fuses. A small body of signallers with the southern force made themselves very useful, and reported very accurately the movements of the enemy. No casualties had occurred, and no prisoners had been made beyond the reported capture of a scout by the reconnaissance party. He certainly had been missing for a time from the advancing force, but owing to a good eat which could do the country well, he must have escaped, for both the Light horsemen of this force were subsequently seen carrying on a sharp fusillade with the scouts of the retiring northerners. After the cease fire had sounded both forces retired from their positions and regained the high road, and then in conjunction marched to a merry tune to the house of Mrs Canabhaijee Camajee, not far from Ghat Cooper station, which she had, as she did last year, placed at the disposal of the Volunteers. Breakfast was here served, and once more the three corps engaged in friendly onslaught, though not on one another. After a bloodless victory the men amused themselves in various ways. Single stick and boxing contests were got up, and the inevitable tug of war. In the latter the Artillery and the Rifles were pitted together, and much to their delight the infantry men pulled the gunners over twice with ease. Shortly before a move was made for the station the assembly was sounded, and when all had gathered together as usual to hear the umpire's decision, Colonel Bayley, who had acted in that capacity, addressed the men as follows :—

Bombay Light Horse, Bombay Artillery, and Bombay Volunteer Rifles,—As usual before we start for the train on our homeward journey, it is my pleasant duty to tell you the umpire's decision. I confess I have no difficulty in addressing you on the present occasion, as I have to a certain extent got rid of that timidity and diffidence which somewhat afflicted me in my early years. (Hear, hear.) This is not the first occasion, as I have said, but we have here to-day, for the first time in the history of the world, three forces,—the Light Horse, the Artillery, and the Infantry—joined together in friendly warfare. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) I hope it will not be the last, though it certainly will be the last in this year of grace 1887. Gentlemen, the movements you have performed to-day, you may perhaps have thought not so rapid as those done this day last year. But they were carried out as they were planned, and they were planned by the Von Moltke of the Corps. (Hear, hear.) You all know who he is, and I will therefore not name him. (Cheers and cries of Capt. Brown.) In giving you the results of the operation to-day I must speak with every possible reserve, as I know nothing whatever of the Artillery and the Light Horse. This much I can say, it is impossible to conjecture what might have happened if the fuses had done what they ought to have done. (Laughter.) However, in my humble opinion the result of the fight is the each army, or rather each force, did precisely what was intended that that force should do. (Laughter and Cheers.) There was the attack on old Coorla, which had been planned, and there was the retreat. So far as I can discover, if anybody had a possible advantage it was the northern force, which did not appear to be dislodged. However, I will not commit myself by an opinion on that point, as I feel myself incapable of doing so. I made my observations through my opera glasses from two hills, and the consequence is that each party, it appeared to me, did precisely what it ought to have done, so neither party has won and neither party has lost. (Laughter and cheers.) We are all very glad to see such a large attendance, and I hope next year it will be larger, if possible. I now wish you all a very happy New Year and a very many of them. (Cheers and cries of the same to you.)

The men then gave three hearty cheers for Colonel Bayley, and three more for the officers. A third three was given for the lady who so kindly placed her bungalow at their disposal. The men then fell in and marched to the station and the train brought them back into Bombay, after having been out since half-past five in the morning.

ARRIVAL OF H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

H. E. LORD REAY, Governor of Bombay, accompanied by Mr. J. Monteath, Private Secretary, Col. the Hon. N. G. Littleton, Military Secretary, Mr. W. Lee-Warner, Secretary to Government, Dr. Irving and Captain Hamilton, A.-D.-C., arrived yesterday morning at about five minutes past 7 o'clock, at the Grant Road Station from Ahmedabad. The arrival of his Excellency was private, the guard-of-honor and the attendance of the heads of departments being dispensed with. There were present at the station Captain Phayre and Russuldar Joopsing, Aides-de-Camp, Mr. J. R. Duxbury, Traffic Manager, B. B. & C. I. Railway, his Highness the present Aga Khan, Aga Sultan Mahomed Shah, and his uncle, Aga Jangee Shah his Highness' private secretary, Kurreem Khan, and Mr. Y. M. Kelkur, the Oriental Translator to Government. The arrival of the train conveying his Excellency was fully 45 minutes beyond time, owing to some delay caused on the Wadhwan branch of the line, on which his Excellency travelled. His Excellency, on alighting at the station, shook hands with the gentlemen present, wishing each one a Happy New Year. Colonel Berkley, the Governor-General's Agent at Baroda, travelling by the same train, also alighted at the Grant Road Station. Mr. W. Holland, Superintendent of the B. B.and C. I. Railway Police, accompanied the train from Ahmedabad. After a few minutes' conversation his Excellency entered a carriage and pair that was in waiting with his Private and Military Secretaries, and drove on to Government House, Malabar Point, followed by the other members of his suite. It is believed that Lord and Lady Reay will leave Bombay on a visit to Calcutta on the 5th instant, where they will be the guests of his Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Dufferin. A salute of seventeen guns will be fired from the saluting battery at sunrise this morning, announcing the arrival of his Excellency.

BACK BAY SWIMMING BATHS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—With reference to the letters that have lately appeared in your columns on the subject of reserving one or two days of each week for ladies, I am desired by the honorary directors to state that this matter has been engaging their attention for sometime past, and as soon as the special arrangements for the safety and comfort of ladies are completed, (of which due notice will be given) Tuesdays, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 1 p. m., will be set apart in each week for the purpose.—Yours, &c.,

F. WHITE,
Honorary Secretary, Back Bay Baths Company, Ld.

THE ENGLISH MAILS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Some months ago you announced in your valuable paper that by the new mail contract entered into with the P. and O. Company the time of transit between London and Bombay would be reduced by a day.

As the English mails have hitherto generally arrived at Bombay on Monday morning, it was but natural to infer from the above that the mails, under the new contract, would arrive in Bombay on Sunday morning. But by a notification of the Post Office the public are informed that on and after the 20th February next, the mail will be due to arrive in Bombay on Mondays.

Where then, Mr. Editor, is the gain to the public under the new contract for the next ten years?

When the new contract was announced there was much rejoicing at the prospective acceleration of speed whereby passengers would arrive in Bombay a day earlier, and European residents in India, especially those dwelling in the mofussil, receive letters, from their families and friends, 24 hours sooner than they were doing.

This proves but a delusion, however, as under the new contract the P. and O. Company have not engaged themselves to do more than what they have been actually doing hitherto.

Do, Mr. Editor, wield your powerful pen on behalf of the public and stimulate the authorities to induce the P. and O. Company to make their English mail steamers arrive in future at Bombay on Sunday morning.—Yours, &c.,

ONE INTERESTED.

WITH reference to the telegram in the London *Times*, regarding the sale of the right of fishing and collecting lilies in Mandalay Moat, the following official statement has been published :—

The moat around the City of Mandalay supplies drinking water for the City which forms a part of the cantonment and also a part of the town. After occupation the practice of netting fish in the moat was adopted by the Burmans and others. This involved the fouling of the water, and was therefore prohibited, but was surreptitiously continued by the people. To preserve the purity of the drinking water supply and to raise the revenue, the right of fishing in the moat was sold by the Cantonment Committee under severe restrictions, framed for the purpose of preventing the fouling of the water or the extermination of the fish. It was sold by auction on the 29th August last to one Cooposawmy Pillay for Rs. 14,600. The purchaser failed to pay the last instalment of his rent and a fresh sale was ordered. Meanwhile the matter came to the Chief Commissioner's knowledge, and under his instructions Captain Temple conferred with the Burmese Ministers and Municipal Commissioners. They said that there was a feeling against selling the fishery. It was accordingly not sold. The right to gather lilies was sold, for a small sum, to a Mahomedan, the object being to have the lilies cleared out of the moat. The purchaser failed to keep the moat clear, and it has been cleared at the Government expense. Before the lilies were sold, it was ascertained from the Burmese Ministers and others that no prejudice would be offended. On the contrary, the opinion of the Ministers and those consulted was in favour of the measure as tending to keep the water pure.

Regarding the statement that land has been given to officials in Mandalay, it is stated that none has been sold, leased or granted to Messrs. Burgess and Richardson. Under the orders of the Government of India sites for houses are now to be granted to officials.

ADDRESS TO MR. DOSABHOY FRAMJEE.

ON Saturday, at the Girgaum Police Court, a large number of Hindoo and Parsee pleaders, headed by Mr. Morojee Cassinath, Pleader, High Court, assembled with a view of expressing their sentiments of respect and esteem towards Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee, the retiring Magistrate of that Court, who presided there for the last time.

Mr. Morarjee Cassinath, addressing his Worship on behalf of his brother pleaders, said :—As this is the last day of your Worship's career as the 2nd Presidency Magistrate for the town of Bombay, the practitioners of your Worship's Court consider it their duty to express to you, before your retirement from the Bench, their warm thanks for the courteous and affable treatment which they have always received at your hands. The eminent services you have rendered to the public, and the impartial manner and marked discretion with which you have administered justice in this Court, will long be remembered, not only by those whose business brought them in daily contact with you, but also by the whole European and native community. Your Worship brought with you an established reputation for great tact, ability, and decorum, and your Worship's career as a magistrate was invariably distinguished by a liberal-minded policy, a deep insight into human character, and a judicious use of that ripe and varied experience which you had obtained in different departments of life. We believe that the solicitors and advocates of the High Court will agree in this opinion of ours. We are glad that Government have, by a separate resolution, recognized your merits and the services you have rendered to the public. As the first native magistrate in Bombay you have graced the Bench for more than fifteen years, and it will be no ordinary consolation to you in your well-earned retirement to hear from us that your true worth, in the conscientious discharge of your duties, was always fully appreciated. Allow me to assure your Worship that you carry from here the good-will and hearty wishes of us all. We confess we have just commenced to feel the pain of your future separation. However, we wish you a long and happy life, and we hope you will be long spared to take a lively interest in our civic affairs. (Applause.)

Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee, replying to the address, said: —Mr. Morojee Cassinath and Gentlemen,—It is needless for me to say that the feelings of esteem and regard to which you have given expression are extremely gratifying to me. After a period of over twenty-seven years of public service, I retire this day, and the testimonies of approbation, which it is my good fortune to receive upon the eve of my retirement, cannot but be productive of a grateful consciousness of duty done and its reward earned. Half of my period of service was spent in the Revenue and Fiscal Departments of Government, in holding such invidious offices as that of the Income-Tax Collector and others, involving grave responsibilities. I am, however, proud to feel that while I have succeeded in earning the approbation of Government, I have at the same time secured the good opinion and full confidence of the public in my official dealings with them. His Excellency in Council has recently been pleased to bestow on me a special and gracious mark of his approbation by issuing a Government Resolution recording my services in commendatory terms. I am, indeed, much beholden to you for the opportunity you have thus afforded me for referring to that subject and publicly expressing my loyal gratitude to the Government I have thus long served. I have uniformly received at their hands kind and gracious support, and I feel it my bounden duty to acknowledge that it was in an eminent degree due to that support that I was enabled to acquit myself of my trust. During the period that I have been privileged to occupy this Bench, I have sincerely endeavoured to do my duty, and the kindly sentiments entertained towards me by such a discerning body as the legal practitioners who have been practising before me are a marked testimony that I have not laboured in vain. I shall ever remember your words during the remainder of my life. To fulfil the functions of the judicial office, and to retire from it with the good opinions and good wishes of those who are best able to judge, is a noble reward for the holder of that office. I need hardly say I esteem very highly the parting words of farewell that you have been good enough to address to me. I thank you from my heart for your kind expressions, as well as for the constant and able assistance I always received from you, and for your uniformly polite and genial bearing towards me. The leisure I shall have after having this Bench I trust still to employ in the service and for the benefit of my citizens and countrymen in other fields of public usefulness, and in those fields I hope to meet you and claim fellowship with you. Again I cordially thank you, gentlemen, for your kind sentiments.

Superintendent Crummy, who was present in Court, said, he was one of the oldest members of the Bombay Police Force, and on their behalf he thanked [illegible] hearing of cases. He fully endorsed the sentiments expressed by Mr. Morojee in his address, and wished that Mr. Dosabhoy might long enjoy his well-earned pension and long life.

Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee, replying, said :—Mr. Crummy,—I am very much obliged to you for your good wishes and the kind expressions which have fallen from you. While I have not neglected to guard the interests of the subjects, I have given the police officers such support in the discharge of their invidious duties as would assist the due administration of justice. I may add that there are many officers in the Police Force for whose judgment, ability, and integrity, I entertain a high opinion.

MAHOMEDAN EDUCATIONAL CONGRESS.

THE whole of the sitting of the Educational Congress at Lucknow on December 28, was taken up with the adjourned discussion of Syed Ahmed Khan's resolution that the establishment of small primary schools with inadequate staffs of teachers was more likely to retard than advance Mahomedan education. Very vigorous discussion took place on this question. Several speakers urged that this motion if carried would have a retrograde rather than an advantageous effect, and said that in many parts of the country the condition of Mahomedans was so bad that even small schools were likely to be beneficial. In big towns with a large Mahomedan population, such as Patna, Amritsar and Bombay, the foundation of Mahomedan schools had induced a large number of Mahomedans to send their sons to schools, which, on account of poverty or religious prejudice, had been either unable or unwilling to give them an English education. Local schools, it was held, stimulated local effort; and school education could not be undertaken by a few centres, so that it was better for Mahomedans to educate their children themselves than rely on Government or missionary schools. In localities where the noble but impoverished Mussalman class existed small schools could not fail to be of use.

A great many speeches were made bringing forward facts about districts with which the speakers were acquainted. On the other hand the supporters of Syed Ahmed Khan's resolution pointed out the great importance of higher education, and the necessity of focussing national effort and not frittering it away in small and comparatively useless undertakings. To help those students who could, as things were, read up to the entrance standard and afterwards up to the B. A., or M. A. degree was more important than to start schools in towns where, for the present, boys were able to read in other schools. It was deemed necessary to emphasise the principle of united action on the most vital points, the means at the disposal of the community being very limited.

A discussion then occurred as to whether Government or missionary schools were best fitted for Mahomedan students, some speakers holding that in the latter the religion of Islam was held up to contempt, while on the other side it was said that boys were at least taught the Bible, which was better than nothing.

On Syed Ahmed's resolution being put to the meeting it was negatived by some two hundred votes to twenty, to the great delight of the advocates of the minor schools.

At the afternoon sitting the first resolution—that the Congress were glad at the foundation of the University of Allahabad, provided that it improved higher English education; otherwise it regretted its foundation—was proposed by Mr. Nabi Ullah, Barrister-at-law, who said that the North-West Provinces were not inferior to Bengal in Oriental languages, but inferior in English knowledge; it was therefore necessary to increase English knowledge in the former, and make it compulsory. This was seconded by Syed Ahmed Khan, who said that the reason for doubting the intentions of Government was because the Mahomedans have before their eyes the Punjab University, which has been a great misfortune to that Province.

After some discussion the resolution was carried unanimously.

The next resolution was to the effect that the teaching of the Koran should be encouraged. It was pointed out that there had been a great decline in knowledge of the Koran, and this was a clear proof of national degradation.

There was a discussion after this on primary Urdu education; and Mr. Pirie made a speech on the necessity of reforming the text-books used at schools.

Syed Ahmed then proposed a resolution against appropriating the old Mahomedan endowments for English education. He said the wishes of the donors must be respected, and if people wanted money for English education they must give it from their own pockets. This was seconded by Munshi Imtiaz Ali and, after many other speeches, carried by about three hundred votes to seven.

The meeting then adjourned.

THE NATIVE PRESS.

THE PROPOSED UNIVERSITY REFORM.

THE more one studies the character of the scheme for University reform to which the Senate has so wisely refused to give its sanction without the preliminary precaution of referring it to the consideration of a select committee, the more convinced does one become of the necessity for taking so prudent a step. It is only necessary to glance at several of its more important clauses, and notably at sections XIII. and XX., to perceive that these sections, as at present worded, stand in need of very considerable alteration. Thus, for the Senate to pass the former of these two sections, as it stands at present, would be so to limit the choice of the electoral body in the nomination of future Fellows as practically to exclude from nomination to the Senate all or nearly all whose attainments qualify them to represent the Engineering faculty in that body, and as wholly to exclude not a few educationists of high standing and recognised ability who may not have had the advantage of graduating in a British or an Indian University. The claims of this latter class, to which a contemporary has lately called attention, are too well known to render it necessary that we should dwell upon them here, and we need but recall the well-known services which the professors of our Catholic colleges and schools have rendered to education in India. To make it plain to our readers that any educational measure which should exclude them from a voice in the direction of University affairs would be in the highest degree impolitic and unjust.

Neither on the other hand does there appear any better excuse for the meddlesome provision embodied in section XX. which grants to the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, and Senate the right of interference with the affiliated colleges, their professors, and teachers. Not to dwell upon the fact that the power to exercise any such interference is wholly alien to the object with which our local University, like similar bodies of recent establishment in Great Britain and India, has been founded, one feels compelled to ask what our colleges have done that such an attempt to deprive them of their autonomy should have been devised. In a measure which purports to have been constructed on the lines of self-government and decentralisation, any provision of the kind indicated would seem, to say the least of it, exceedingly out of place: but the present device for limiting the liberties of affiliated institutions is as unnecessary and uncalled for as it is incongruous. There can be little doubt that Government will be quite sufficiently careful to provide for the efficiency of its own institutions without the aid of any external control; while, as to private institutions, they have too many interests at stake to allow themselves to drift into inefficiency. On the maintenance of a suitable standard of efficiency depends the aid promised them by Government and the continuance of their recognition by the Senate itself is, in accordance with existing reg

SPECIAL SHORT ADVERTISEMENTS.

The scale for these Advertisements is as follows:—Not exceeding 3 lines Re. 1; each succeeding line, As. 8. No trade advertisements are admitted under the scale.

NEW YEAR'S CARDS.—RAPHAEL TUCK & Co.'s ARTISTIC NEW YEAR'S CARDS AND FOREIGN PAINTINGS.—*Bombay Gazette* Office.

THE CO-OPERATIVE STORES for Cutler, Palmer's Wines—Whisky, Brandy, Sherry, Champagne, &c. W. J. ESSAI.

THE CO-OPERATIVE STORES, Ld., Medows St., Fort, Bombay, for the best Hams, Bacon, Stilton, Gorgonzola, &c. W. J. ESSAI.

THE CO-OPERATIVE STORES, Ld., for Bon-Bons, Crackers, Paris Confectionery, Scotch Short-Bread, Cakes, etc. W. J. ESSAI.

THE CO-OPERATIVE STORES, Ld., Bombay, for every description of market produce—Fish, Ice, Meat, Fruit, etc. W. J. ESSAI.

WANTED.—SENIOR and JUNIOR TEACHERS for the FORT HIGH SCHOOL.

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE.—Admission to the Previous Examination Class will be held TO-DAY, 2nd January.

COLABA HIGH SCHOOL for Boys and Girls, Colaba Causeway. Government Grant-in-aid sanctioned. Teaching up to Matriculation. Re-open, January 4th. Boarders received.

CHEAP! CHEAP! CHEAP! Useful folding Chairs, Travelling Tin Trunks, Portmanteau, Gladstone Bags; also Crockery, Cutlery, Stationery, Glassware. Cheapest House.—SHROFF BROTHERS.

LANOWLEE.—Visitors to this Hill Station can have Comfortable Board and accommodation with home comforts with a European Lady. Terms, Rs. 3 per day or Rs. 80 monthly. Apply Mrs. FORWARD, Lanowlee.

AIR GUNS.—Large size, Rs. 55, with ammunition complete.—GEYER & Co., Ld.

SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES, ON EASY TERMS FOR CASH 5, CHURCH GATE STREET.

THE "GLENDALE" HOTEL, Khandalla, RE-OPENED on the 5th October. Terms on application to the Manager, Glendale Hotel.

"THE SHIKARI" FITTED TIFFIN Basket complete 22" by 14" by 9½, Rs. 40 each. J. NEUBERG, Bombay.

REAY PAPER MILL, Poona.—Samples of papers may be seen at No. 10, Medows Street, Fort, Bombay, or at the Office at Poona.

BEAUTIFUL DIAMOND BRACELET of one line, one pa... for sale, at Rs. 4,500, at Messrs. S. and J. KHAN, 6, Elphinstone Circle, Fort, Bombay.

DOLLS! DOLLS!! TOYS! TOYS!!—Mechanical Toys, Speaking Animals, Rocking Skin Horses.—MORENAS and Co., 15, Meadow Street.

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS!! Perfect Fit GUARANTEED. Coat and Trousers, from Rs. 15. JOHN MAHOMED and Co. 15, Meadow Street.

AMMUNITIONS for the AIR-GUNS.—SHOTS, 1,000, Rs. 1; Darts, 1 dozen, Rs. 1-8. L. STEFFENAUER, 3, Church Gate Street, Fort.

C. JOST & Co., GUNSMITHS.—Repair and Bronze Guns, Rifles, Revolvers, &c., under Guarantee. First Class Testimonials from Princes and the Army.

SINGING AND PIANO taught by a Lady trained under the best French and Italian Masters. For terms, apply to Messrs. Soundy and Co., Rampart-Row.

N. PETERSON and Co., Manufacturers of Cigars. Gem-de-Javas and other Specialities of Indian Cigars. Samples and lists on application.—PRICHNOPOLY.

RUGBY HOTEL, MATHERAN, is the most Comfortable, Central, and Accommodative Hotel in Matheran. Rooms Bright and Airy. Terms moderate.

£6,500,000 STG. is the amount of the Invested Funds of the Standard Life Office. Claims by death paid last year, £549,974-19-10 Stg.

SUPERIOR GRUYERE Fresh Chestnuts, Sweet Lime, Walnuts, Hazelnuts, Mince Sausage, Cacio Cavallo Mangia Italian Cheese.—CASSINELLO & Co., 10 Medows Street.

PARISIAN MILLINERY.—Four cases just opened from Paris, Exquisite Goods. Any reasonable offer accepted. The CASH BAZAAR, Limited, Churen Gate Street.

PASSAGES BOOKED to ENGLAND and the CONTINENT, 1st class, from Rs. 250. No Commission charged. Apply to WILLIAM WATSON & Co., 28, Apollo-street, Bombay.

ON VIEW, for a few days, the collection of NATIVE ART POTTERY, selected by the Bombay Committee for the forthcoming Glasgow Exhibition.—WONDERLAND, Esplanade.

NOTICE.—Messrs. ALDRIDGE, SALMON and Co. have REMOVED their offices to 29, Esplanade Road, above Messrs. Thacker and Co.—ALDRIDGE, SALMON & Co.

IF you are really in want of good servants apply at once to MOONSHY & Co., General Merchants, Commission Agent's, Estate and Loan Brokers, Church Gate Street, Fort, Bombay.

THE PALL MALL HAIR CUTTING SALOON and TOILET CLUB for Ladies and Gentlemen. Hair and Beards Cut and Brushed by Machinery. Toilet Requisites and Theatrical Articles. 73, Esplanade Road.

LADIES' Tailor-made Ulsters, Riding Habits, Newmarket Coats, &c., made and fitted to present style of our new clothes just imported. Estimates and patterns free.—BADHAM, PILE & Co., Ld., Rampart-row, Bombay.

LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S HAIR-CUTTING SALOON.—FRANCIA AND FUCILE, Court and Historical Hair-Dressers, Perfumers and Theatrical Wigmakers, Rampart Row, below Bombay Club, Fort.

PRESENTS.—Our magnificent and varied assortment of Useful and Fanciful Articles in Silver, Electro and Gilt-ware, from Rs. 5 to Rs. 1,000 is now on view. Inspection Solicited. Latest Novelties in Artistic Gold and Silver Jewellery.—MARCKS & Co., Ld., Bombay and Poona.

SCHIEDMAYER'S PIANOS.

CALCUTTA EXHIBITION, THE HIGHEST AWARD FOR SYMPATHETIC SQUARE PIANOS, SOUNDY & CO., Ld., BOMBAY, Sole Agents in India for the SCHIEDMAYER PIANOFORTE FABRIK STUTTGART.

THE only maker of that name, whose instruments obtained ONE GOLD and TWO SILVER MEDALS with first-class Certificates, proving the superiority of their Pianos over all others exhibited.

We would caution intending purchasers not to confound the name with that of SCHIEDMAYER AND SOEHNE.

See our illustrated price-list free by post.

SOUNDY & CO., Ld., BOMBAY.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS and LIVER PILLS, the best Family Aperient Medicine, without Mercury.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS and LIVER PILLS, effectual in all Liver Complaints.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS and LIVER PILLS cure Sick Headaches and Giddiness.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS and LIVER PILLS cure Costiveness and Stomach Pains.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS and LIVER PILLS cure Indigestion and Flatulency.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS and LIVER PILLS may be taken at all times without restraint from business or pleasure.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS and LIVER PILLS should be kept ready at hand, as a dose of Aperient Medicine given in time will frequently prevent a severe illness.

IMPORTANT CAUTION.—Be sure to ask for "DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS and LIVER PILLS," in a green bottle, wrapped in green paper, and having the name and address "William Lambert, 8, King William-street, Charing Cross" engraved on the Government Stamp. Do not therefore purchase without seeing the Government Stamp over the cork of the bottle.

DR. SCOTT'S BILIOUS and LIVER PILLS. W. LAMBERT, LONDON, ENGLAND. "AGENTS WANTED."

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 31.

CONSOLS, at Reuter's quotations of 102, received this morning, had advanced ¼ per cent.; but French Rentes in Paris remained at 107¼. Silver comes ½d. per oz. lower at 44 9-16d.; but no alteration is made in Thursday's prices of Rupee Securities. Indian Sterling Loan was also unchanged.

Rothschilds' disclaimer regarding their reported connection with the Copper Syndicate has apparently had no effect upon the market for that metal, the quotations wired yesterday being still £84 per ton for Wallaroo, and £81 for Braziers.'

In the General Produce market, advices from Mincing Lane make Linseed and Coffee firm and Rapeseed quiet, at previous quotations. The market for East Indian Wheat was firm, and the same prices as before are quoted for Soft White in Liverpool. For Hard Red and Club Nos. 2 quotations are given for the new crop to arrive, and, at 31s. 9d. for the former, and 33s. 9d. for the latter, are 2s. 9d. and 3s. per quarter respectively higher than the previous rates for old. The quantity of Wheat afloat for the United Kingdom was 30,000 quarters less, at 1,240,000 quarters, than on the previous Friday.

The firm tone with which the Liverpool market opened had become only steady at the close, but the total sales came up to the morning's forecast of 12,000 bales, and included 2,000 Surats. In American Cotton there was no change either in spot or arrival prices; and the only alteration made in quotations of East Indian, is an advance of 1-16 in "Good" Bengal. It is notified that there will be holidays in Liverpool until Tuesday. The Manchester market continued firm at previous quotations.

The business for the week, curtailed by the holidays, was on a smaller scale than that summed up in the previous week's statistics, the total sales, at 59,000 bales, showing a falling off of 15,000 bales. The takings of the trade were 49,000 bales, and with the amount forwarded, aggregated 75,000 bales. The Imports, at 111,000 bales, were 6,000 bales heavier than in the previous week. The total stock had increased by 22,000 bales, and stood yesterday at 604,000 bales; that of Surats was 3,000 lighter at 82,000 bales. In the total visible supply yesterday's estimate shows an increase since last Friday of 30,000 bales, at 3,130,000 bales; of East Indian Cotton there were 14,000 bales more in sight, at 297,000 bales.

New York quotations remain where they have stood since last Wednesday, viz. at 10 9-16 cents for spot Cotton, and 10·92 cents for May Futures, yesterday's and to-day's telegrams advising no change. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports for the two days respectively compared with those of the two preceding years were as follows:—

	1887	1886	1885
Friday's Receipts ..	28,000	41,000	32,000
Saturday's do.....	25,000	25,000	17,000

The receipts for the week ending Friday were 14,000 bales lighter than for the week before. The Exports to Europe were 6,000 bales less in the aggregate at 128,000 bales, having been larger however, to Great Britain, though smaller to the Continent. The stock at the U. S. Ports had become greater during the week by 30,000 bales; that at the interior ports was unchanged.

The American crop figures to date give the following comparisons with the two previous seasons:—

	1887	1886	1885
Week's receipts	188,000	236,000	192,000
" exports to U. K.....	91,000	99,000	86,000
" " Continent....	31,000	72,000	39,000
Total receipts since 1st Sept.	3,936,000	3,745,000	3,870,000
" exports to U. K. " ..	1,326,000	1,430,000	1,754,000
" " Cont. " ..	1,060,000	864,000	1,979,000
" Stock in the Ports	1,050,000	1,108,000	1,135,000

The total visible supply of Cotton for all Europe on the 30th ultimo affords the following comparisons with the two previous years:—

	1887	1886	1885
Total supply of all kinds	3,130,000	3,260,490	3,098,000
" " Surats	297,000	266,470	251,670

For the United Kingdom only the figures are:—

Stock in Liverpool.....	604,000	672,040	641,000
" London	33,000	13,660	17,000
American Afloat	280,000	285,000	216,000
East Indian "	10,000	41,000	18,000
	927,000	1,011,700	892,000
Price of Mid-Uplands	5¾d.	5¾d.	4 5-16d.
" Good Fair Dhollerah...	4 3-16d.	3 15-16d.	3-16d.
Difference.....	1 9-16d.	1 5-16d	¼d.

The total import of Cotton into Bombay from the beginning of the season to yesterday, as will be seen from the subjoined comparative statement, still show an excess of 521,000 bales as against last year, and of 368,000 bales compared with 1885 to the same date. The Exports to Europe for the same period have been 162,000 bales more than they were in 1886 and 428,000 bales above those for the preceding year. The Stock at the Ports is now lighter, by 58,000 bales than it was at this time last year, and by 85,000 bales compared with 1885. The total visible supply, it will be noticed, though still some 30,000 bales greater than in 1885, is now 130,000 bales less than it was at this time last year; while the supply of East Indian Cotton in sight is still greater than in 1886, and much in excess of the figures for 1885. With reference to Surats however, and in connection with the weekly decrease of Stocks of them in Liverpool, it will be seen that there are 31,000 bales of Surats less on the water than was the case at this time last year, while their position is strengthened by the comparatively small arrivals of our new crop to date. The total Stock in Liverpool, it will be seen, now shows 68,000 bales less than last year at the same time, though an increase to about the same extent compared with the year before.

Here the Banks and many offices have been closed to-day for the New Year holidays; and though the Produce markets have been nominally open, no transactions of importance have transpired.

The unseasonable rainy weather which we have had here for the last few days, and which is stated to have prevailed to a greater or less extent on this side of the peninsula, has given rise to reports of damage to the Cotton crop in several districts; but pending the receipt of reliable advices by the Chamber of Commerce we refrain from giving currency to statements which may be unreliable, and, at any rate, are probably exaggerated.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay yesterday were as follows:—

Cotton	2,092 bales.
Wheat	5,240 cwt.
Linseed	2,811 "
Gingelly	7,710 "
Groundnuts.....	4,447 "

JOHN ROBERTS & CO., PRACTICAL BILLIARD TABLE MAKERS AND GENERAL HOUSE FURNISHERS.

HAVE received a Consignment of very best Ivory-Handled Sheffield Cutlery, with through Tang. These have been made specially to our order by one of the best Manufacturers and are offered at exceptionally low prices.

18, Marine Street, Bombay.

SASSOON INSTITUTE.

NEW BOOKS.

A. 63-7—Extracts from the Writings of Norman Macleod, D.D. By his Daughter.

B. 16-25—Little Novels—Wilkie Collins.
90-30—Garland for Girls—Louisa M. Alcott.
90-29—For Gold and Gold—J. Corbett.
20-28—Uncle Max—Rosa N. Carey.

BERKLEY MEMORIAL.

C. 63-17—Lockwood's Dictionary of Mechanical Engineering Terms.

MENIST'S PERFECT PEBBLES

ARE CUT ON APPROVED SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE AXIS OF THE CRYSTAL.

IN MENIST'S PERFECT PEBBLE SPECTACLES it is not only the pebbles which are perfect. Special attention has also been given to the construction and finish of the frames to ensure the pebbles being placed exactly in the proper position for efficiently correcting the particular anomaly of refraction for which they are designed.

MENIST'S PERFECT PEBBLE SPECTACLES stand unrivalled, and command the highest price, but for those who desire it, we supply also ordinary glass and Pebble Spectacles at Rs. 3 and Rs. 6 per pair, respectively.

MARCKS AND COMPANY, Ld. BOMBAY.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE s.s. Lepanto, 1,500 tons, Captain R. Roach, Agents Messrs. Finlay, Muir and Co., from Hull, (Nov. 26) laden with a general cargo, arrived in Bombay yesterday morning.

THE Austrian steamer Orion, Captain Mattiazi, arrived in Bombay yesterday morning from Trieste, (Dec. 10) with a general cargo, and two cabin, and thirty-two, deck passengers.

THE B. I. steamer Arabia, Captain G. Shepherd, cleared on Saturday last for the Persian Gulf ports and Karachi. She is laden with a general cargo and has the following passengers on board:—Mr. Shaw and Mr. Ratanji J. Tata for Karachi; and sixty-two deck for various ports.

THE Austro-Hungarian steamer Poseiden, 2,510 tons, which arrived, under Captain S. Mersa, from Hongkong on Saturday last, laden with a general cargo, had the following passengers:—For Bombay—Mr. P. Merton, from Singapore; Mr. and Mrs. C. Boninger Mr. Rickmas, and Miss Best, from Colombo. For Trieste—Mr. O. Feyer, from Singapore; and Mr. A Bogdanish, from Penang; and five deck.

THE B. I. steamer Pachumba, Captain J. B. Mackay, which arrived in Bombay on Friday evening, with mails and a general cargo from the Coast and Karachi, had the following passengers:—Capt. Ricardo, Mr. J. Russell, Mr. O'Neil, Mr. Shaw, Mr. W. J. Porter, Major FitzHerbert, Mrs. Connor, and two children, one native officer, one Arab gentleman and six ladies, Mrs. Humekhan and child, two European women, and sixty-five deck.

VESSELS IN THE PRINCE'S DOCK.
31ST DECEMBER, 1887.

Vessels.	Net Tonnage.	Captains.	Sheds.	Company or Agents.
S.S.R. Sabatino	3014	G. Morello.....	A	F. Bozzoni.
" Kashgar	1573	Jull.....	C	P. & O. Co.
" Lepanto	1500	R. Roach	E	F. Muir & Co.
" Dracona	1245	W. Sangster....	F	Rodgers & Co.
" C. Graham	1911	C. Alexanderson	G	F. Muir & Co.
" Vulcan	1141	W. Skinner	H	K. Nixon & Co.
" Regius	119	W. P. Kayll	K	K. Nixon & Co.
" Kirby Hall	149	G. Pearse	M	Edward Bates & Co.
" Clifton	171	A. W. Wade.....	N	F. Muir & Co.
" Kt. of St. John	2286	L. Sheil	O	J. Mackintosh & Co.
" Akaba	2470	J. Main	P	K. Nixon & Co.
" Stura	1416	N. DeMarchi.	Q	F. Bozzoni.
" Avoca	900	C. Lehoe	Quin	Visram Ebrahim & Co.

ARRIVALS.

Dec.	Vessel.	Commander	From.
31	Lepanto (s)	Roach	Hull, Nov. 26.
	Kecrata Roodrin	Nakos	Poonasy, Dec. 11.
	Poseidon (s)	Mersa	China, Dec. 10.
Jan. 1	Orion (s)	Mattini	Trieste, Dec. 10.

DEPARTURES.

Dec.	Vessel.	Commander	Destination.
31	H. M. S. Crocodile	Evans	Portsmouth.
	Sierra Miranda	Mesnard	Rangoon.
	Glen Caladh	Lamont	Chittagong.

The steamer Arabia, Shepherd, cleared on Saturday last for the Persian Gulf and Karachi.

The steamer Lepanto commenced to load for Hull, Antwerp, &c., on Saturday last.

CALCUTTA.

ARRIVALS.

Dec.			
27	Madras s	Macfarlane..	Rangoon, Dec. 1.
	Governor's	Valiant	Liverpool, Nov. 2.
	Maharaja s	Young	Moulmein, Dec. 2.
	Secundra s	Russell	Singapore, Dec. 14.
	Muncaster Castle.	Valentine ...	Liverpool, Aug. 30.

DEPARTURES.

Dec. 27.—Steamer Africa. Ships Benvenue and North American.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—DECEMBER 29.

Bayley, Lt. Col., Bombay Volunt Rifle Corps, from leave, from Poona.

Preston, Capt. A. D. C. to the C-in C., Madras, on leave, from Poona.

DECEMBER 30.

Nairne, Brigadier General, Bengal, Inspector Genl, Artillery, on duty, from Umballa.

Mercer, Captain, Bengal, Bde Major to Inspr Genl. Artillery, on duty, from Umballa.

Bell, Lt., Bengal, Worcester Regt., enroute to Quetta, from Deolali.

FitzHerbert, Major, Bengal, 4th King's Own, from sick leave, from Karachi.

Ricardo, Capt., Bombay R. A., off leave, from Karachi

DEPARTURES.—DECEMBER 28.

Peyton, Major, Bombay, Durham L. I., on leave, to Poona.

DECEMBER 30.

Crommalin, Lt., Bengal 1st Goorkha, on duty, to Dharemsalla.

DECEMBER 31.

Nairne, Br. Genl., Bengal, Army Head Quarter Staff, on duty, to Madras.

Mercer, Capt., Bengal, Bde Major to I. G. of Artillery, on duty, to Madras.

Collings, Lt., Bombay, Rl. Dub. Fus., on leave, to Poona.

Preston, Captain, Madras, A. D. C. on leave, to Poona.

Peile, Capt., Bombay, 2nd Grenadiers, from leave, to Ahmedabad.

BOMBAY ARMY ORDERS.

BY H. R. H. THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, HEAD-QUARTERS.

Poona, 30th Dec. 1887.

H R H the C-in-C is pleased to make the following appointment with effect from the 25th Feb. 1887:—

Lieut J Hanwell, R A, to be Aide-de-Camp to Major-Genl F R S Flood, C B, Comdg Poona Divn.

The C-in-C is pleased to make the following appointments:—

9th Regt Bo Infy.—Lieut J F Whyte, Rl Marine Lt Infy, who has been appointed a Probationer for the Bo S C, to Officiate as Wing Officer on probation, dated 24th Dec 1887.

12th Regt Bo Infy.—Surgn L F Childe, to officiate in Medical Charge.

16th Regt Bo Infy.—Surgn G E Fooks, to officiate in Medical Charge.

Surgn H E Deane, Medical Staff, is transferred from Genl Duty, Presidency Dist, to General Duty, Sind Dist.

The undermentioned Officers are granted leave to England with the necessary subsidiary leave:—

6th Dragoon Guards.—Capt A Weston, for six months, on urgent private affairs.

Royal Artillery.—Lieut H B Strange, (J Battery 4th Bgde), for 6 months, on medical certificate.

The undermentioned Officer has leave of absence:—

North Lancashire Regt (1st Battalion).—Lieut C J Daniel, to remain in England, from 1st Jan to 1st June 1888, on medical certificate.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY

BOMBAY, 30th December, 1887.

Means of observations at	6 a.m.,	10 a.m.,	2 p.m.	4 p.m.,	and 10 p.m.
Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fahr					29·953
Temperature of the Air					76·0
Wet Bulb Termometer					72·6
Dew Point					71·1
Relative humidity of Air					0·852
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded=10)..					10·0
Maximum temperature of air (read at 6 p.m.					82·5
Minimum do. do (read at 10 a.m)					73·9
General Directions of Wind*	W.	SE.	NNW.	N.	NNW.
Movement of wind in 24 hours*					217
Fall of rain					0·09
Total for during month					0·16
" " year					91·95
Additional fall of rain up to 10 a.m. of 31st inst.					0·00

* From midnight to midnight.

MR. N. H. GHEESTA, DENTAL SURGEON, MAY BE CONSULTED FROM 8 A.M. TO 5 P. M. Extracts teeth under N. C. Gas. No. 23, RAMPART ROW. Next to *Bombay Gazette* Office.

DR. F. B. SEERVAI, SURGEON DENTIST. NO. 3, HORNBY ROW, Opposite the Bombay General Post Office.

NOW READY.

MACLEAN'S GUIDE TO BOMBAY AND BOMBAY DIRECTORY, FOR 1888.

Printed and published at the "BOMBAY GAZETTE" Office.

INDIAN PRICE—Rs. 5; with Postage, Rs. 5-4.

THE GUIDE AND DIRECTORY for the year 1888 contains a great deal of new and interesting information connected with the immense progress made by the city in recent years.

The new buildings, which have added in the course of the year just closed over sixteen lakhs to the value of the property on the books of the Municipal Corporation for assessment purposes, are in themselves striking evidence of the continuous growth of Bombay.

While recording the advance that has been made in material prosperity, the Guide now gives for the first time a comprehensive account of the numerous charities which are maintained by the benevolence of leading citizens of the past and present generations.

The Directory has been carefully corrected and revised up to the day of going to Press.

FORT HIGH SCHOOL.

ELPHINSTONE CIRCLE.

AT the MATRICULATION EXAMINATION just concluded, this school passed 49 of its Pupils, and carried away the SCIENCE and HISTORY Prize for the FOURTH time in the space of five years. This number must be allowed to be VERY LARGE considering that the school could pass ONLY FIVE BOYS TEN YEARS back and TWENTY-FOUR LAST YEAR.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

NEW ZEALAND.

DEATH.

FULTON—November 25, at Dunedin, N Z, Ellen, the beloved wife of Major-General John Fulton, R A, late Superintending Engineer, W J Canals.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

BECKETT—December 20, at Wellington, Nilgiris, the wife of Major J R Beckett, "Royal Fusiliers," of a daughter.

HICKLEY—December 25, at Doudpore Factory, Mozufferpore, the wife of Victor N Hickley, Esq. of a daughter.

ALBERER—December 27, at Deesah-Dinapore, the wife of Albert Roderick Alberer, of a son.

ORCHARD—December 24, at Sambhar, Rajpootana, the wife of C H Orchard, Superintendent, Northern India, Salt Revenue Department of a son.

SHARPE—December 28, at Fort St. George, Madras, the wife of Captain E J Sharpe, D A A G, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

COLE—JONES—December 1, at St John's Church, Meerut, by the Rev C G Moore, Chaplain, Owen Wynne Cole, eldest son of Colonel George Wynne Cole, M S C, to Louisa Cooper Pitfield, second daughter of the late Edward John Pitfield Jones, of the Bengal Pilot Service.

MACINNES—GRAY—December 29, at Jeypore, Rajputana, by the Rev. George Mecalester, M.A., assisted by the Rev. William Robb, M.A., Nasirabad, the Rev. John MacInnes, M.A., Ajmere, to Jeanie Dalziel, eldest daughter of the Rev. James Gray, Ajmere.

McCONECHY—RICKERING—December 24, at the Wesleyan Chapel, Negapatam, by the Rev J M Thompson, Jas S McConechy to Mary Lee Pickering, daughter of the late Henry Pickering, Esq, New castle-on-Tyne, and niece of John Pickering, Esq, Glasgow.

The Bombay Gazette

MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 1888.

THE reassuring telegrams of yesterday morning confirm the impression that the recent movements of Russian troops were meant rather as emphatic protocols rather than as portents of war. Somewhat tardily the Russian Ambassador has given peaceful assurances to Austria-Hungary, and stated that the Russian people are averse to war. This is said after a prolonged manifestation of menacing strength on the side of Poland which had created anxiety and great indignation alike at Vienna and at Pesth. That is the expiring news given in the last Reuter's telegram of the year 1887; the first telegram of 1888 shows that this new method of applying pressure is having the effect which was apparently expected. An effort is being made—we are not informed by whom—to get the Powers acting in concert to bring about a settlement of the Bulgarian question that will be "agreeable to Russia." The desire to be agreeable to Russia grows apparently in inverse ratio to the determination of Russia to make herself disagreeable to others—especially to those who are not in the best position to defend themselves if attacked in earnest instead of being menaced in dumb show. Should success attend this method of assuring one's neighbours that above all things peace is the one blessing you ardently desire, and that you are ready to fight for it out of hand, we may expect to see it very generally applied. The concentration of fifty thousand Russian troops and the accommodation of artillery and munitions of war at Bender in Bessarabia must be regarded as the reply of the Czar to the vote of the Roumanian Chamber of Deputies on the 23rd December giving a credit of 16 000,000 francs for the purchase of rifles and munitions of war and the erection and completion of fortifications. That the preparations for war thus provided for by the Roumanian Chamber were directed against Russia there could be no doubt. To gain access to Bulgaria in force the Russians must pass through Roumania to the Danube. This access was given with free will in the last war against Turkey, and the Roumanian army co-operated enthusiastically with the Russians in the campaign which broke the Turkish Power in Bulgaria. Now that the Turks are no longer on the right bank of the Danube, Roumanians feel no desire to see the troops passing through to establish the predominance of the Czar on that side, and enclose Roumania within a Russian wall. The little kingdom organised on the German military system by King Charles is able to put four *corps d'armees* in the field, and pains have been taken to protect Bucharest by fortifications. General Brialmont, the Belgian expert who fortified Antwerp, was called into council to advise on the best system of fortification for Roumania, and it was to carry to completion the plans which he has drawn up that the vote of 16,000,000 francs was passed ten days ago. The reply of Russia is the massing of troops at Bender, midway between Odessa on the south-east and Jassy, the chief town of Moldavia, nearly due west. It is a convenient point on the Dniester for concentration with a view to the invasion of Roumania. The concentration has a political and diplomatic object which will perhaps be attained without crossing the Pruth in the middle of winter. The strain on the resources and on the nerves of the Roumanians while in daily expectation of a forward movement, will be very great, and may prove sufficient to compel them to reconsider the situation and renounce their undertaking to make common cause with Austria-Hungary against Russia. With the Austrian forces on the alert in Galicia there will be little reason to expect help from them upon the Pruth. This new way of working on the apprehensions of the enemy to be intimidated, has its advantages and may save a good deal of bloodshed. It is an adaptation of the old and humane formula of shaking a whip over the shoulders of an adversary and telling him to consider himself horsewhipped. The stain was held to be more indelible than the weals of a whip could ever have been, and a good deal of risk and trouble was avoided.

While the Russians are congregated at Bender they may pass some of the time hanging on their hands in recalling suggestive memories. It is not so many centuries since Peter the Great found himself cooped up with his army in that very place by a Turkish host, led by a valiant Vizier who had as his military adviser the redoubtable Charles XII., then a refugee in the Turkish camp. Supplies were cut off, and so was retreat. In his extremity the great Peter contemplated suicide, and had an epileptic fit. It occurred to the thoughtful Czarina, Catherine, to advise him to try what might be gained by sending an envoy to the Vizier, offering favourable terms of peace. Her Majesty divested herself of all her jewels to enable the envoy to make a suitable present to the Turkish Prime Minister. The negociations resulted in the signing of a treaty of peace which delivered the Czar and his army from the necessity of choosing between destruction and a capitulation. The Swedish monarch, who looked upon his rival as already in his hands was furious, and overwhelmed the Vizier with reproaches. "You had the Czar a prisoner, and might have taken him to Constantinople," said the warlike Swede. The imperturbable Turk replied: "It would not do to have all the Christian princes on the Turkish soil." The royal fugitive from Paltowa was so angered by the taunt that he purposely entangled his spur in the Vizier's robe, and contemptuously tore the effeminate silk. Thus the not very remote forefathers of the men now massing at Bender, escaped a Sedan in that locality which would have changed Russian and Turkish history. The Turk had then the Russian by the beard, and might have done what he pleased with his enemy. He was given one other chance nearly as good, when during the invasion of Russia by Napoleon, a large Russian army locked in Moldavia and Wallachia was allowed to depart by a convention signed by the Sultan, at the instance of the British ambassador at Constantinople. This army turned the scale against Napoleon, whose position was made hopeless by the unexpected liberation of a force which he believed to be held elsewhere. The Emperor said that he could not have foreseen such a catastrophe, for no one had a right to believe that even the Turks would have committed a blunder so stupid and suicidal. Roumania—the Roman Dacia—must, from its geographical position, be vitally affected in the collision of Empires in the east of Europe.

THE Roman Church is engaged just now in celebrating with appropriate fervour the jubilee of the entrance of Pope Leo the Thirteenth into the priesthood. It is a necessary consequence of the world-wide distribution of the agencies and energies of the Church that the celebration is as widespread as was that with which the loyalty of Englishmen and of the races associated with them in subjection to the Crown of England earlier in the year kept the Jubilee of Queen Victoria's accession to the Throne. The occasion is one which might have tempted Macaulay, severely qualified though was his respect for the Roman ecclesiastical system, to repeat the well-known phrases in which, in a glowing and rapid generalization, he pourtrayed the vastness of the kingdom over which the Popes, under constantly changing conditions, have held sway. Those isles of the sea over which the successors of Peter, by a bold interpretation of ancient prophecies, have daimed jurisdiction, "bring gifts" to the latest of the inheritors of his authority. Countries which had no place in Ptolemy's Geography, and which no definition of the Roman world could possibly have included, are pouring in their treasures of devotion alike to the office and to the person of a venerable Pontiff. "*Non videbis annos Petri*" is the warning which is whispered into the ears of each Pope when he is installed in Peter's seat. Pio Nono saw something more than the years of Peter; his successor contemplates a spiritual empire in a geographical sense more universal than any universe of which the Fisherman whose ring is the sign and seal of his authority can ever have dreamed except by inspiration. But the Rome of the Popes need not yet sigh, as Alexander did, for worlds to conquer. A third of the human race are still Buddhist, and if these were won over to the faith there would yet remain the world of Islam, a standing protest against the claim of any other religious system to universality, albeit that Christian controversialists have been telling us lately that all is not darkness even there. Still the Pope, if so minded, may claim that his Empire, like the Queen's, is one over which the sun never sets. Costly gifts which have gone from India to Rome for his Jubilee remind him that, at all events in the sense in which the College of the Propaganda interprets the phrase, India has in his reign ceased to be *in partibus infidelium*. The tradition of St. Thomas is kept alive in this country by a hierarchy whose constitution is one of the greater works of Pope Leo's Pontificate. From Australia there have gone to Rome cheering tokens of a vitality in the same cause more than commensurate with the growth of the civil communities in that great continent, and scarcely less striking than that of the Roman Church in the United States, where in a society planted by Puritans the largest single body of religionists looks to him as its spiritual leader. Jubilees in the earlier ages of the Church were a productive means of stimulating the generosity of the faithful. They still have this use. But Pope Leo is a master in philosophy, and he is not likely to lose sight of the philosophy of an occasion like this. The treasures which the devotion of his following is pouring at his feet will minister to the necessities of the Vatican; but they are a demonstration, besides, of the prevailing enthusiasm of the peoples amongst whom he counts his followers. There is something dramatic, for instance, in the gift of £80,000 from Hungary—from those Magyars against whose depredations in Southern Europe the Church in old times turned the armoury of special intercessory masses.

The fifty years which have passed since young Jiaomo Pecci said his first mass have been singularly full of the stuff of which history is made. Rome has in this period seen a Republic within her walls; her destinies have been confided to a Pope who, for the moment touched by the liberalism which threatened to shake half the thrones of Europe forty years ago, began as a reformer, and for the rest of his days was the faithful exponent of the political principles of Metternich; the temporal power, sustained for twenty-two years by French bayonets, has fallen under the assaults of a young Italy whose dreams could have had no other consummation than the possession of Rome as the capital of a United Italy. When Pope Leo succeeded to the Papal Throne eight years ago the wounds which the Vatican had received during the fateful struggle of 1870 were unhealed. His predecessor had to the last maintained an attitude of uncompromising hostility to the secular power. And the quarrel of the Church was not with the Italian monarchy and the Italian Liberal movement alone. The Prussian Parliament had passed restrictive measures upon the clergy, which had revived the battles between the Mediæval Popes and Emperors. The old quarrel between Frederick and Adrian seemed be in re-enactment by the Emperor William and Pope Pius. As to the rights of the Pope in Rome these were held to be matters concerning which bargaining of any sort was impossible. The impious hand of the revolution had touched the Ark of the Covenant, and in the presence of sacrilege only one attitude was possible. If the conditions have vastly changed in the interval—if peace has been signed with Germany, and if a reconciliation between Pope and King in Italy seems no longer an absolutely impossible thing,—the change is due more to the personality of Pope Leo than to any other factor in the problem. The very element in his character which the ultras on the side of the Church condemned when they spoke of him as "the toothless lion" went very far indeed to make an accommodation of the differences between the secular and the ecclesiastical power possible. His predecessor had faced the situation much as Lord Eldon if he had been a Pope instead of a Lord Chancellor would have done, and the high Tories of the Vatican feared that an ecclesiastical Peel was coming into power, who would some day take occasion to readily by the hand and make a base surrender to the enemy. The Eldonites remain a disappointed faction, clinging fondly to principles which they deem too sacred to be

TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

THE SITUATION IN EUROPE.

VIENNA, DEC. 31

The European situation has improved somewhat. Russia, through Prince Lebanof-Rastovski, her ambassador at the Austrian Court, has given peaceful assurances to Count Kalnoky, who stated moreover that the Russian people are averse to a war.

PUBLICATION OF THE FORGED DOCUMENTS.

BERLIN, DEC. 31.

The *Official Gazette* to-day publishes the forged documents which, Prince Bismarck had assured the Czar, when his Majesty was here in November, had been employed by certain intriguers to warp the Czar's mind and produce an estrangement between Russia and Germany.

The papers consist of forged letters purporting to be from Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, in which Germany is represented as being ostensibly opposed to his claim to the Throne of Bulgaria while at the same time secretly affording him her support.

The authors of the letters have not yet been discovered.

THE BULGARIAN QUESTION.

LONDON, JAN. 1.

THE latest reports from the Continent point to an effort being made for the Powers, acting in concert, to bring about a settlement of the Bulgarian Question in a manner that will be agreeable to Russia.

THE AMERICAN RAILWAY STRIKE.

PHILADELPHIA, DEC. 30.

The terms offered by the Philadelphia and Reading Railway to 65,000 men who had struck work, and to which they had yielded, having been demonstrated by the labour agitators to be unsatisfactory, the men are again "out."

THE MAHARAJAH DHULIP SINGH.

MOSCOW, DEC. 31.

His Highness the Maharajah Dhulip Singh will shortly take his departure from this place, and will take up his residence somewhere in the South—probably in Tiflis.

MR. GLADSTONE.

FLORENCE, DEC. 31.

Mr. W. E. Gladstone and family have arrived here.

RAJ DURBHANGA.

LONDON, DEC. 31.

The *Times*, in its issue this morning, publishes under the heading "Princely Philanthropy in India" a long account of the Raj Durbhanga and its Maharaja, the Hon'ble Lakshmeswar Sing Bahadur.

THE NATIONAL CONGRESS AT MADRAS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRAS, DEC. 30.

THE ARMS ACT.

A most exciting debate of the Congress occurred to-day, and threatened at one time to cause a serious split. Mr. Sabapathy Moodelliar, a wealthy merchant of Bellary, proposed that, in view of the loyalty of the people, the hardships which it causes and the unmerited slur which it casts upon the people of this country, the Congress is of opinion that the present Arms Act should be repealed.

Mr. Bipen Chunder Pal, Editor, *Lahore Tribune*, seconded the proposition.

In a vigorous speech Dr. Trailokyanath Mitter proposed an amendment, omitting the last clause and substituting the following:—"That the Congress do move the Government to administer the Arms Act in a liberal spirit, and so arrange that all persons certified by local or municipal boards, within whose jurisdiction they reside, to be fit and proper persons to possess and wear arms, shall thereupon once for all be allowed the privilege until such time as they shall, by some act in contravention of Criminal Law, prove themselves unfit for the same." He said they must go to Government with practical proposals. He agreed with the sentiments expressed by previous speakers, but thought the resolution impracticable.

Mr. Chandravarkar appealed to the Congress to be practical. He was not an advocate of the Arms Act or of the policy which led to its passing, but it would be entirely unpractical and Utopian to ask Government for a total repeal of it. They might as well ask to repeal the Penal Code. He advised them not to go to Government as so many schoolboys asking for something which could not be granted.

Mr. Sundramsashtri, vakeel, Madras, supported the amendment on the ground that it was not safe to put arms into the hands of everyone who wishes to carry them.

Ali Mahomed Bheemji opposed the amendment.

Hafiz Abdul Rahim supported the amendment, and said, they must be not theorisers, but practical statesmen.

Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee strongly protested against the amendment, and proposed to add a rider to the original proposition, to the effect that Lord Canning's Act should be substituted for the present Arms Act. He quoted Mr. Gladstone as the greatest practical politician, and he had condemned the Arms Act.

The Rev. Kali Churn Bannerjee seconded Mr. Surendra Nath's proposal.

Mr. Hume said he had worked Lord Canning's Act, and his recollection was that it was a great deal more stringent than the present Act. He objected to the substitution.

Mr. Annaswamy Iyer, vakeel, Tanjore, proposed a compromise, which seemed acceptable to the majority.

A conference was then held by all the speakers and a few others, the result being that the following resolution was passed:—"That in view of the loyalty of the people, the hardships which it causes and the unmerited slur it casts upon the people of this country, Government be moved so to modify the provisions of Chapter IV., and, if necessary, any other Portions of Act XI. of 1878, as shall enable persons to wear arms unless debarred therefrom as individuals or as members of particular classes for reasons to be recorded in writing and published."

The chairman pointed out that the result will be that as now no one can wear arms unless authorized to do so, everybody will be allowed to carry arms unless expressly debarred unanimously.

The meeting to frame a constitution for the Congress, have drawn up some rules which were circulated to-day, but the adoption of which is postponed to the next Congress.

The delegates were entertained last night by Mr. Eardley Norton at a dinner, when there was speaking, fireworks and music.

This evening the Cosmopolitan Club entertained the delegates.

To-morrow afternoon H. E. the Governor will give a garden party to a portion of the delegates.

To-morrow evening Sir Savalai Ramasawmy Moodelliar will entertain all the delegates.

The next Congress will be held at Allahabad.

Copies of the resolutions will be forwarded to the Viceroy and the Secretary of State for India.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

MYLAPORE, DEC. 31.

Meetings were held on the 30th and 31st instant. A social conference was formed.

Allahabad was fixed for the next meeting of the conference. Great enthusiasm prevailed. Almost all resolutions were passed unanimously.

GAZETTE OF INDIA NOTIFICATIONS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DEC. 31.

Mr. F. Halliday, Bengal Civil Service, is appointed additional member of the Council of the Governor-General.

Pundit Rama Shankar is appointed a member of the Statutory Civil Service as Assistant Magistrate in the North-West.

The services of Surgeon Silcock are placed at the disposal of the Central Provinces.

The services of Surgeons Bamber, 5th Bengal Infantry, and Hendly, 7th Bengal Cavalry, are placed at the disposal of the Punjab Government.

The Hon'ble Romesh Chunder Mitter, Judge, Calcutta High Court, has been granted furlough for 8 months 20 days.

Mr. F. Petre, Assistant Agent to the Governor-General, Central India, has been granted furlough for one year.

Lieutenant-Colonel Smyth, 31st Bengal Infantry, is appointed to officiate as Commandant of the Bhopal Battalion.

The following officers are allowed to go on furlough:—Surgeon-Major Barday, Secretary to the Surgeon-General for India, one year; Lieutenants Thomson, 4th Goorkhas, and Jackson, 3rd Bengal Cavalry, one year.

The following officers are allowed to retire:—Lieutenant-Colonels A. Davis and C. Higginson, and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel John Robertson.

The conference of Commissioners, Bengal, is fully attended, and includes Messrs. Edgar, Macaulay, and Nolan, Secretaries; Mr. Peacock Halliday, Board of Revenue; and Mr. Veasy, Inspector-General of Police.

THE CALCUTTA RACES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, DEC. 31.

THE GRAND ANNUAL.

Goldfinder	1
Chalsworth	2
Tandarook	3

CONSOLATION SELLING RACE.

Charlton	1
Prelate	2
Spray	3

THE PAIKPARA CUP.

Young Revenge	1
Euclid	2
Eunice	3

THE DURBUNGAH CUP.

Myall King	1
Caulfield	2
Nulquine	3

THE CHOWRINGHI PLATE.

Edith	1
Bon Accord	2
Albicore	3

PONY SELLING RACE.

Nellie	1
Minette	2
Billet Don	3

PONY HANDICAP.

Tenasserim	1

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

THE MAILS.

SUEZ, DEC. 30.

The P. and O. Co.'s s. s. Assam, with the outward English mails of the 23rd inst., left here for Bombay at noon to-day.

LONDON, DEC. 30.

The Bombay mails, of the 16th inst., arrived at Brindisi to-day.

STEAMER MOVEMENT.

SUEZ, DEC. 30.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Alpine arrived here from Calcutta, Madras, and Colombo this morning.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, DEC. 30.

The Liverpool Cotton market closed steady. Straits firm.

Good Fair Dhollera	4 3-16

The Manchester market has been firm.

3 per cents. Consols for account	102
3½ per cents. Sterling Loan	103½
4 per cent. Rupee Paper	69½
4½ per cent.	73⅝
4½ per cent. Bonds Redeem.	107¼
Bar Silver	44 9-16

LIVERPOOL WEEKLY COTTON REPORT.

Total Week's Sales of Cotton		59,000 bales
" "	Surats	7,000 "
" " Imports of Cotton		111,000 "
" "	Surats	3,000 "
Stock of Cotton		604,000 "
"	Surats	82,000 "
" Sale of Cotton in London		33,000 "

THE Indian Empire Investiture, which is to take place at Calcutta on the 6th February, is not likely to be very considerable ceremonial.

THE first Silver Medal presented by the Viceroy in connection with the Countess of Dufferin's Fund has been awarded to Miss B. Bradley, of the Grant Medical College, Bombay.

THE first sale of opium, the provision of 1885-86, is to be held at the Government opium safe-room at Calcutta on the 4th January. The total quantity to be sold amounts to 4,750 chests, of which half the number is from the Patna Factory and the other half from the Ghazipore Factory.

SIR WALTER DE SOUZA, being about to retire from India, the various public and educational charities which he has administered for the past sixteen years will be made over to the Official Trustee. The amounts bequeathed at different times by Sir Walter's family for public charitable purposes amount to nearly ten lakhs of rupees.

OUR Calcutta correspondent announced, a few days ago, the suicide of Mr. H. J. H. Fasson, Collector of Backergunge, under painful circumstances. It appears that he had been suffering in health for some time past, and had been granted furlough home in consequence. He came to stay with a friend at the General Hospital in Calcutta preparatory to leaving, and it was noticed then that he was much depressed. This was attributed to exposure and hard work during the past few months. At last he was visited by a specially severe attack of melancholia, under the influence of which he shot himself. He had fifteen years' service and leaves a widow and three children.

COMMERCIAL UNIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—I must plead not guilty to the "eager faith" in the Commercial Union of England and her Colonies, which your remarkable leader of Wednesday last attributes to me. A man may have an earnest *belief* in the utility of certain common-sense arrangements; but "faith," as applied to the action of political parties, is too strong a term. Thus far, however, I am happy to observe we are in agreement. If we were a certain Oxford Professor, we would support the policy of Free Trade by working for Free Trade over an area so large as that contained in England, India, and the Colonies, rather than merely make the attempt to enlarge the Free Trade area of the United States by the inclusion of the Dominion of Canada. Patriotism apart, there can be no question of the comparative value of Canada to Great Britain, or, on the other hand, to the United States. Canada, a country of vast unoccupied areas of virgin soil, is the very complement Great Britain requires. The States would only suffer by a further expansion to northward. Were I asked to idealise—to build up on paper—an Empire including every economic and social advantage, I should not select the United States, although her capacity for further development is magnificent. But I should take Great Britain, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and although the problems connected with the inclusion of India are extremely serious, still the cash value of India is in proportion. The cost of moving a ton on the railway is about equal to that of moving fifteen tons on the water. Therefore, a community occupying such points as Bombay, Liverpool, Montreal, and Melbourne are connected for trade purposes, under circumstances of very great advantage, as compared with a community which occupies New York, Chicago, Kansas City, and St Louis, and intervening districts. But is it possible to frame a Constitution which may include England and Greater Britain? It is clearly not possible if no one tries. When the fusion of Canada with the United States has been accomplished; when Australia has cut loose; when British Guiana and the West Indies—communities bankrupt by the sugar bounties we have abetted—have incorporated by comuercial union with the United States; still English statesmen will be found to declare that the question of Imperial Federation, while important, is "not ripe;" that any attempt to discuss it before the Colonies are each and all "educated," night "do harm." The position is that of Lord Chatham and Sir Richard Strachan in their historic duel. Both parties are extremely eager, but each waits for the other to draw first. The second must have been laughing at their principals then just as he world is to-day laughing at us. Where it is merely a question of drafting a Constitution for Bulgaria or Egypt, or for countries unfitted for constitutional rule, any one of half a dozen of our public men can do that! The difficulty at present is largely this. It is a difficulty which the Oxford resolutions have immensely decreased. The Colonies all want protection for their produce in English markets; less, perhaps, for the sake of higher prices, than for the direction it will give to our capital and our emigrants; but until the other day to question the theory of free imports was unheard of; even Mr. Chaplin, who certainly has the courage of his convictions to an unusual degree, was reticent; Mr. James Lowther was driven from political life on this very account. Therefore Colonists talked of a discriminating tariff in their favour, as men talk of Blue Roses or the Millennium. But if Mr. Howard Vincent, Mr. Isaac Lowerth, and the rank and file of the Party will nurse this new departure, it will make a great reform in the Reform Club than the Irish Policy of Mr. Gladstone. Was there a better representative of robust radicalism than the late Right Hon'ble W. E. Forster, and what were his opinion? In conversation with the Canadian High Commissioner, Sir Charles Tupper, he said, "If the Colonies make this tariff question a *sine qua non* if Imperial Union is impossible without it I for one am prepared to sacrifice Free Trade." Such is the situation to-day. "The heads of parties," Mr. Pulteney once said, when it was far less true than now, "are like the heads of snakes, carried forward by the tails." And the kind of tail which was set wagging at Oxford, and which has made the Prime Minister so glorious should yet push forward the heads to such a condition of trade—Free Exchanges—as we have never known. But if the movement was significant merely of local irritation, in fact protection, protection for the rural mass, it will not only fail, but it will repel growing sympathies and will disappoint even Lord Hougate. Are the difficulties in the way of union? Do they compare with the difficulties which Sir John Macdonald overcame in federating the Dominion of Canada at a time when British Columbia or the Pacific was separated from New Brunswick by 4,000 miles of trackless forests and prairies, before there was a mile of railway laid to westward of Toronto? If New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland quarrel about tariffs and refuse to federate amongst themselves, here surely is England's opportunity. Such a brilliant objective as the monopoly of her markets will of itself establish their connection each with the other. If anyone will return from here to England by way of Japan, taking one of the Canadian Pacific steamships from Yokohama to Victoria or Vancouver; if he will explore Vancouver, the other Islands in Puget Sound, and mark the enormous coal beds yet untouched; if he will take the railway through the great canons of the Fraser River and emerge from the mountains on the prairie sections—Alberta and Manitoba; if he will thus take the steamer at Thunder Bay and pass a thousand miles down the Great Lakes to Buffalo, navigating in less than three days two-thirds of all the fresh-water on the globe, he will arrive in England with ideas of the future of our race more valuable than all the theories of professors and politicians.—Yours, &c.,

MORETON FREWEN.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—Allow me to contradict the statement of your correspondent from Baroda, and which appeared in your paper of the 29th inst., that "the young Prince Fatehsingh Rao Gaekwar, who is not at all well," &c., &c.

H. H. the young Maharaja is and has been enjoying excellent health.—Yours, &c.,

BATUKRAM S. MEHTA, L. M. & S.,
Medical officer in charge of the Prince.

Baroda, Dec. 31.

MILITARY NEWS.

SOME of the Southern India Volunteer Corps have asked the Supreme Government to be exempted from income-tax, and have been told that the question cannot be considered at present. The *Pioneer* says if all the suggested easements of Volunteers had been carried out, the twelve thousand men with rifles in India would now be in possession of those privileges: (1) they would pay no income-tax; (2) they would all have free passages home after every five, seven or twelve years' service, or (3) would enjoy a reduction of fare for their families; (4) they would all travel on Indian lines free, or at half rates; and (5) their commissioned ranks would be, on every occasion, spoken and written to as are commissioned officers of the Regular Army.

IN May last Hla Oo perished at the hands of his own followers in the Chindwin jungles, and our Mandalay correspondent telegraphs to-day that a similar fate has now overtaken Buddha Yaza, who was a year ago in the Eastern Districts what Hla Oo was in the Chindwin Valley.

THE Eclipse Stakes, in the Calcutta Races, has been won by the bay Arab pony Tenasserim, who started with the betting at 5 to 1 against him. Young Chorister was a warm favourite at 3 to 1 on, and ran second. The distance was ¾ of a mile; time 1 min. 23½ secs.; eight starters. The value of the stakes must be something like Rs. 10,000—a substantial Christmas-box for "Mr. Cook," the name by which Mr. Joe Anderson, the well-known Inspecting Veterinary Surgeon, races. It may be remarked that both the first and second horse were Arabs; whilst the field included four Walers.

THE report of the Public Service Commission has been signed by all its members, no one dissenting. By what process the divergent and apparently irreconcilable views of a few weeks ago have been harmonised is neither very important nor likely ever to be known.

THE GOVERNOR'S TOUR.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

DHORAJI, DEC. 29.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S reception here last evening was the most cordial yet accorded on his present tour. Preparations on an extensive scale had been made by the authorities of the Bhownugger-Gondal Railway, and so soon as the broad gauge line was left, his Excellency's progress became one series of ovations. A sumptuous breakfast was served at Wadhwan, where his Excellency was received by the native Chiefs and an imposing array of students of the Talukdar's School. The repast was laid in the Railway bungalow; tiffin was provided at Dhola junction, and afternoon tea at Chital, whilst at every station along the line, whether the train stayed there or not, were gorgeous decorations in his Excellency's honour. At most of these the road was lined on either side by prominent residents and school children, who raised loud cheers as the train sped along, and poured upon it showers of roses and other sweet-scented flowers. Dhoraji was one blaze of illuminations, the effect of which was intensely picturesque, and even more brilliant would have been the spectacle had not a strong wind followed by an altogether unexpected downfall of rain extinguished many of the lights. But the whole distance from the railway station to the Thakore Saheb of Gondal's guests' encampment and his Excellency's temporary quarters was bounded by bamboo railings, supporting triple rows of butties, which were spanned by arches at intervals. His Excellency was entertained in a spacious well-appointed travellers' bungalow, some two miles from the railway station, and the members of his immediate suite were lodged in tents near him. But just without the station was pitched a veritable canvas city, in which the Thakore Saheb entertained some hundred guests in a style of more than princely magnificence, Captain Ferris, and Rao Bahadur Ganesh Govind, being officers in charge of the camp. A large plot of ground was levelled and laid out in long avenues of palm and foliage plants, entered from the station end beneath a handsome archway, on a scroll surmounting which was the seasonable greeting of the Thakore Saheb: "Wishing you all a Happy New Year." Rows of tents then led to a dining tent, a drawing-room tent and a dancing tent, to tennis courts and rifle ranges, whilst near was a large headstand, from which the Thakore Saheb's well trained musicians played classical and popular selections from breakfast time to midnight. To each of the guests was allotted a spacious, handsomely furnished tent, in which was provided everything that could possibly be desired or even thought of. The dressing table bore toilet requisites, whilst the writing table was amply supplied, not only with candles, writing materials, ink, pens, paper, pencils, sealing-wax, telegraph forms, but even postage stamps, cigars, cigarettes and fresh-cut flowers daily. Carriages were placed at the disposal of each tent, a superabundance of servants, and in addition separate sleeping tents were provided for each guest's personal attendant, and sentries kept watch over the entire encampment. For the further entertainment of his guests the Thakore Saheb organised pig-sticking exploits, and gave prizes for these, for shooting and for tennis. Among the guests of the Thakore Saheb, entertained in honour of his Excellency's visit, were Colonel and Mrs. Morse, Mr. Betham, Mr. and Mrs. Lely, Mr. Shadbolt, Mr. and Mrs. Ashton, Mr. and Mrs. Wilkin, Mr. and Mrs. Macnaghten, Mrs. Jarkhad, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Booth, the Misses Spencer, Mr. Sandford, Mr. Carroll, (Superintendent of the B.-G. line, who had charge of his Excellency's train) Mr. and the Misses Tait, Mr. and Mrs. Wylie, Mr. Macpherson, Dr. and Mrs. Barker, Colonel Hancock, Mr. White, Major Humphrey, Colonel Phillips, Major and Mrs. Gardiner, Mrs. and Miss Irving, Messrs. Knox, Templer, Tudball, Melville, Plinston, Hughes, Bhownuggri, Kapadia and Wadia.

Most of these in addition, the Thakore Sahib received his Excellency on the railway station, and there were also the following:—The Thakore Saheb of Gondal, Prince Bhagvatsingji, Heir-apparent of Porebunder, Prince Vagesingji, of Porebunder, Captain Ferris, Assistant Political Agent in charge Halar Peant, Captains Kennedy and Fenton, Mr. Bezonji Merwanji, Dewan of Gondal, Mr. Hari Krishna L. Dave, Private Secretary to the Thakore of Gondal, Mr. Javerilal Oomiashanker Yajnik, the Bombay Agent to the Thakore of Gondal, Mr. Krishnaram L. Dave, Revenue Commissioner of Gondal, Mr. Narayen Vasoodeo Kharkhan, Dewan of Palanpore, Mr. Mugulal Bapoobhai, Dewan of Jamnaggar, Mr. Ludha Damodur, Moonsif and chairman of the Municipality of Dhoraji, Mr. Dattesdar to the Political Agency, the State Vakeels of Jamnagar, Junagadh, Bhavnagar, Palitana, Gondal and Wadhwan, Mr. Cowasji Desai, Private Karbhari to the Thakore of Gondal, Rao Bahadoor Ganesh Govind, State Engineer, Mr. Maganlal Luxmishankar, Shiristedar of Gondal, Mr. Parbhashankar Govindram, Revenue Commissioner, Mr. Jehangier Rustomjee Parakh, Mr. Edulji R. Oomrigar and many other officials of the Gondal States. On the platform Mr. Umdha Damodar, Munsiff and chairman of the Municipality, read an address, a copy of which in a massive casket of chastely engraved silver was presented.

His Excellency replied:—

Thakore Saheb, chairman and gentlemen of the Municipality,—I am very much obliged to you for the kind welcome you have offered me in this very important town of the province of Kathiawar. Last year I visited this State in the absence of its ruler. It therefore gives me additional pleasure on this my second visit to be able to meet, the Thakore Saheb after his stay in England and in Scotland. The advantages accruing from his visit are visible in many ways, and especially so in the work, the great work, which is to be undertaken to-morrow. I have no doubt that it will eventually increase in prosperity, not only Dhoraji, but also the entire Gondal State. You have alluded to your present depression of trade. In this respect you are not alone. Depression of trade unfortunately is prevailing everywhere, but as far as I am able to say in India we have less to complain of misfortune than elsewhere. Certain it is that to cope with depression of trade nothing is more necessary than to increase our individual energy and vigour, and I was glad to hear from your address that the Thakore Saheb had in this instance shown his solicitude for his subjects by making advances to local traders. Besides you have the advantage in this State of no feeling in any way those evils which till recently produced such baneful effects elsewhere. I refer to transit duties. You are fortunate in this territory in having secured and enjoyed the great blessings of a policy of free trade which the Thakore Saheb wisely has left intact. Gentlemen, there will be another occasion on which I shall have the privilege of addressing you. Therefore, now allow me to thank you again for this cordial reception, and to wish that this town of Dhoraji may still maintain the proud place it now occupies in this great province. (Applause.)

THE GONDAL-PORBUNDER RAILWAY.

To-day his Excellency received and returned a visit of the Thakore Saheb, and in the evening cut the first sod of the proposed Dhoraji-Porebunder section of the Bhownugger-Gondal-Junagadh-Porebunder Railway. The formal sanction of the extension has not yet been received from the Government of India, and the work now started will remain idle until it comes to hand. It had been the desire of the officials that so soon as his Excellency had cut the first sod a gang of labourers should have commenced operations, which should have known no stoppage until the line should be completed, but this plan was perforce abandoned. A large shamiana therefore was erected over the spot where the extension line is to commence, and some neatly laid turf was placed ready for removal, his Excellency taking the initial step by cutting the sod with a handsome silver spade and removing it in an equally artistic silver-mounted wheel-barrow of highly polished taste.

His Excellency was received on arrival at the shamiana by the Administrator of Porebunder and the Thakore Saheb of Gondal, who was accompanied by Captain Ferris, Assistant Political Agent, Colonel Hancock, President of the Rajasthanik Court, Major Gardiner, R.E., Manager of the B. G. J. P. Railway and a large number of European and native gentlemen.

Arrived in the shamiana H. H. the Thakore Saheb, addressing his Excellency, said:—

Your Excellency,—I heartily welcome you to my territory, and trust I may take it upon myself to thank your Excellency in the name of the Porebunder State as well as of my own for the great kindness with which you have so readily complied with my request, that you would perform the ceremony of turning the first sod of this extension from Dhoraji to Porebunder of our existing Railway line between Dhassa and Dhoraji. Though this is the first occasion on which I have the pleasure of personally welcoming your Excellency, this is not your first visit to my territory. Last year your Excellency and Lady Reay—(and I wish Lady Reay was present here on this occasion)—did us the honour to make a brief sojourn in Gondal, and though I was sorry I was not present to welcome your Excellencies, I could not but feel all the more grateful that it was in my absence you should have given us what I felt happy to recognise as a proof of your friendship and good-will to my family and my State. It is not necessary for me to say much on the benefits which the Railway brings with it and spreads in many directions. People are daily experiencing those benefits everywhere in your great empire, and nowhere more than in India. We, too, wisely following in your wake, have already experienced those benefits in Kathiawar. Since I have had the direct management of my State, I have never doubted the wisdom of extending, as far as my resources permitted, the existing railway, and the only question which occupied me was the direction which such extension should take most advantageously for my people and my State. The port of Bhownugger was already secured for our trade by the Bhownugger-Gondal line. The proposed line to Junagadh and Veraval from Jetalsar will bring the sea-board within easier reach of us. The great advantages of our connection with your great trunk lines required only to be extended to other parts of my territory, and your Excellency will easily understand my strong inclination in favour of Gondal, my capital, so that I might secure to it the many administrative and political advantages by connecting it with the existing line. Before I could form my decision, Mr. Lely, who is now devoting his best energies to the administration of the Porebunder State, put forward his proposal for a railway to Porebunder, and I was told he wanted my partnership. I did not wish that a project so fruitful of good to many in this province, should fall through for want of my co-operation. I therefore deemed it my duty, however, reluctantly, to give up my cherished scheme of taking the railway to my capital, and to give my best help in the proposed extension, which will connect the well-known port of Porebunder with this city of Dhoraji—the second city in my State. The extended line will be about 69 miles in length, 30 of which will lie in Gondal territory, 21¼ in Navanagar territory, and 17½ in Porebunder territory. The total cost of construction is estimated at about 34 lakhs of rupees, which will be borne by the Porebunder and Gondal States as joint proprietors. In this connection your Excellency will, perhaps, hear with interest that our ancestors of Porebunder and Gondal, besides being bound by ties of relationship, were friends and comrades in arms; and it was their good fortune in many a tough encounter with their common enemies to be partners in the victories of war. And by a happy coincidence the same two States in these days again join hands and start as comrades in the paths of peace, the victories of which we now recognise to be not less renowned than those of war. I cannot say whether our ancestors desired or received the good-wishes of the Paramount Power for their enterprises in those days. We, my Lord, do desire your good-wishes, and your Excellency's presence here is a proof that we have secured them. In asking your Excellency to turn the first sod of this new line, and to join us in asking God's blessing on this enterprise, I congratulate myself that we have among us on behalf of the Paramount Power a Governor whose noble attributes ensure to it our devoted attachment. I thank you all, ladies and gentlemen, for gracing this occasion with your presence.

Mr. Lely then said:—

It remains for me, your Excellency, as representing Porebunder in the absence of H. H. the Rana, to express its entire and hearty concurrence in what has been said by the Thakore Saheb as spokesman of both States. It would of course have been more gratifying to us if the sod which your Excellency is about to turn had been of Porebunder soil, and if instead of being here as visitors we had had the privilege of welcoming your Excellency within the bounds of the Porebunder State. But locality is against us. It is not to be expected that your Excellency should practically tell the need of a railway by travelling over sixty miles of broken road. We trust, however, that when the new line is finished the first train will carry to our capital town both your Excellency and the Thakor Saheb of Gondal as honoured guests.

His Excellency replied:—

Thakore Singh, Administrator of Porebunder, ladies and gentlemen,—No mere fitting present could be conferred by you Thakor Saheb, at this time of the year to your subject than to enrich them by another line of railway. The great work will be achieved by the co-operation of two important Kathiawar durbars, and much that has been done in the past and much of what stands over will have to be done in the future, for the benefit of Kathiawar, by the co-operation of Chiefs of various States. During your minority a British administrator joined with H. H. the Thakore Saheb of Bownuggur in giving to this great province its first important railway line, and to-day return the compliment by joining in with the British administrator of a neighbouring State in establishing railway connection between a most fertile part of your own territory and the port of Porebunder. I know that in doing this you have acted on what may be called an all-important principle, namely, to do that which one dislikes. I am aware that had you followed your own very natural inclination you would have given preference to a line made from Dhoraji to Gondal, favouring that natural inclination you have shown your kind appreciation of the wishes of your subjects and State needs rather than personal gratification. Besides this combination for the construction of lines I am very glad to hear that steps have been taken to ensure for the net work of railways, which we hope will rapidly cover the whole of the province, the uniformity and unity of management which is essential in the working of any railway system. By entrusting all these lines to one central management, and vesting the joint ownership of the rolling stock, workshop and general plant, in a joint board representative of the various interests, you have anticipated a step which has been taken by the Government of India. By a curious coincidence I read almost simultaneously the telegraphic summary of the new regulations and the proposal for your joint management. Among other things the resolution contemplates an increase of through rates but of arbitrary increase or decrease of rates, and precisional advice to Government by a standing committee of managers. The meaning of this resolution is clear that the interests of the public will be henceforth carefully protected, and that this protection can only be secured by the observation of general principles to which all the component parts of our railway system must be made subject. Through rates in a province like this are essential, and to prevent unfair competition between the various ports maximum and minimum rates will be found a useful restraint. These regulations of the Government of India, I suppose, we may fairly regard as a precious legacy left us by one of the ablest Indian administrators, on whom this presidency has a special claim, Sir Theodore Hope, who, I know, thoroughly appreciates the enterprising spirit of the Chiefs of Kathiawar. It gives me the greatest satisfaction to find that the proprietary States undertake to impose no new duties or bounties or to enhance any existing ones on traffic passing through any station on the combined system, and to preserve the freedom of trade. A great railway junction is the best exponent of the absurdity of transit duties. The extension of railways is hardly able to meet the demand the increasing numbers of railway travellers show how these lines are enjoyed by all classes of the community. It is a pleasing consideration that these works are carried out by native labour, largely under native supervision, and ultimately the system is worked by a large personnel of native servants, under a very limited number of highly trained English engineers. Only yesterday in talking with a station master he informed me evidently without regret that he has failed in his Matriculation examination. Perhaps, as station master he is much happier than as a B. A. waiting for employment in the Revenue Department. Besides the rough labour on railway construction and railway working, we have in railway workshop a most valuable school for the development and training of skilled workmanship, and I look upon the development of railway as the best incentive to the development of technical education. Only yesterday I was enabled to appreciate what can be done in this direction under the guidance of English skill, when travelling in the most sumptuous railway carriage, kindly placed at my disposal by H. H. the Thakore Saheb of Bhownugger. That carriage was designed by Mr. Wylie, who deserves to be complimented on having turned out in the Bhownugger works such a perfect specimen with the aid of native workmen. I am sorry that it was not ready for the Indian and Colonial exhibition. You, Thakore Saheb, have observed that we have already got two ports in our Kathiawar system and that Porebunder will be the third. I do not think it will be a bad third. I doubt even if in the long run we shall rest satisfied with three ports, as Salaya and Sheolbettle are, I believe, harbours of great natural capacity. In these circumstances there is what the French call the embarrassment of selection. The great desideratum of railway communication for the present is undoubtedly to obtain unity of gauge, which my late friend, General Hancock, considered infinitely more important than the question of the nature of gauges. We must connect our Kathiawar system at an early date with the Rajputana-Malwa system. Financial difficulties which confront us elsewhere offer no impediment. H. H. the Gaekwar, and H. H. the Thakore Saheb of Bhownugger, whose munificent offer for a railway entirely outside his own territory shows true insight, have opened up a bright prospect. I hope the day is not very far distant when we shall have a through train from Bhownugger to Sidhpore without breach of gauge or bulk. There is one circumstance in to-day's ceremony which affords me much gratification, coupled with regret. I regret the absence of H. H. the Rana of Porebunder, and I regret the circumstances which are the cause of it. I have felt and I feel deeply the responsibility which a British administrator undertakes in the absence or minority of a native ruler. There is, perhaps, no part of my varied duties on which I bestow greater care, and I wish on this occasion to give my thanks to Mr. Lely for the admirable way in which he has carried out my instructions with regard to the State of Porebunder. The tradition of British administration impose upon us the duty of effecting an interregnum, so that on restoration or attainment of their majority hereditary rulers may find their States administered and improved in a way which will strengthen the ties and show how strong they are existing between their house and their subjects. Gondal is the best illustration of what I have said, and Porebunder promises to be another. We made a railway for Gondal, we planned one for Kolhapur, and we are now making one for Porebunder, and Jamnagar will reap the advantages of our administration of Porebunder. When the Porebunder house is one day surrounded by the elements of prosperity, it will, I trust, recognise, as you, Thakore Saheb, recognised at your installation that we are beneficent guardians, and that our labour is not for our own aggrandisement, but for that of the rulers and their subjects, whose interests are committed temporarily to our care. When you, Thakore Saheb, assumed your direct rule you used these words:—"I need hardly say that it will be my earnest desire to see that justice and order prevail in my States; that life and property are well protected; that the Kanbi enjoys the fruit of his labour and the trader the profits of his trade; that roads are improved and communication facilitated; that education is encouraged and provision is made for the relief of the sick poor." Thakore Saheb, though you have been only three years on your *gadi* I believe you have acted up to the pledges you then gave; and that you have shown a due appreciation of what was done for you during your minority by several political officers, one of whom, I am pleased to see, is here present, and another has expressed his deep regret that he could not attend.—I mean Colonel Phillips and Colonel Scott. Proclamation Day generally brings out a list of honours. Difficult as it is to keep secrets in India, no secret is more carefully kept than that concerning the honours which are to be bestowed on that day. But I am instructed by H. E. the Viceroy to say, and I consider it a great privilege to have been allowed to disclose this secret, that it has pleased her Majesty's Government to raise this State to a first-class State. (Cheers.) I am further commanded by my Most Gracious Sovereign the Queen-Empress to announce that in future the rulers of Gondal will be entitled to a salute of eleven guns. (Cheers.) I trust that these distinctions will give pleasure, not only to your Highness, but to your subjects, who, I know, are aware that in you they have the promise of a progressive and useful future. Before resuming my seat I wish to express the great pleasure it affords me to see here present two representatives of the ancient and noble house of Porebunder as guests of H. H. the Thakore Saheb of Gondal. You, Bhowsinghji, will in future years remember this as an auspicious day for the State, whose destinies you will be called upon at some future date to rule. You are aware that to enable you to fulfil the duties of your station, the first requisite is that great care should be bestowed upon your education. We are doing all we can to repair what I must call the reprehensible neglect, and the cruel injustice done to you as compared with what has been done for the sons of other Chiefs. With regard to your education, we count on your own hearty co-operation to make up for lost time. You can rely on my personal friendship and, perhaps, Porebunder may receive at your hands good government, of which it stands in much need. Nothing will give me greater pleasure than to get reports from your tutor, showing that you are acquiring the talents which will secure to you an honoured place amongst the Chiefs, to which descent alone cannot entitle you. I shall now turn this sod with the firm confidence that this railway will increase the prosperity of Porebunder, Jamnagar and Gondal. (Applause.)

His Excellency then turned the first sod of the proposed work, and the ceremoney being completed Mr. Shadbolt and Mr. Tudball, Engineers of the line, were presented to his Excellency. The numerous party then returned to the guests' camp, where a banquet was given in honour of his Excellency.

THE BANQUET.

After dinner the Thakore Saheb proposed "the Queen" in the following terms:—

Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen,—It is my pleasant duty to propose the health of the Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, a toast which is always drunk with the greatest respect and enthusiasm by all who own her benign sway. Her Majesty, as every one knows, is a living embodiment of all that is good and virtuous. I speak this from personal experience during my visits to England, and especially during the last Jubilee celebrations, when she was extremely kind and gracious to me as well as to my other Indian friends. The hue and cry raised in connection with the treatment accorded to the Indian guests on that memorable occasion was something quite unintelligible to me. I might emphatically assert that we had no reason to be dissatisfied with the treatment we received at Court and the consideration shown us by her Majesty's Ministers. I ask you now, ladies and gentlemen, to drink to the health of her Majesty the Queen-Empress.

The Toast being honoured, the Thakore proposed the health of the Governor, saying:—

Ladies and gentlemen,—The toast I have now to propose is one which will meet with the hearty goodwill of you all here. I ask you, ladies and gentlemen, to drink to the health of H. E. Lord Reay. In the words of Lord Dufferin, "one

become like yourself sanitary experts, and give to their subjects the benefit of their experience. Ladies and gentlemen, on this occasion I may perhaps be permitted in your name to acknowledge the extreme hospitality which the Chiefs of this province always extend to their guests. Nothing could be more perfect than the arrangement of this camp and the other camps. And your Highness will allow me, therefore, on the authority of my friend, Colonel Wodehouse, to give his need of praise to your engineer Rao Bahadur Ganesh Govind, who has been mainly instrumental in ministering to our comfort. I wish also to place on record my appreciation of all that the Kathiawar Chiefs have done to commemorate this auspicious year, and to add caste in the province and in England by the deputations which represented them at her Majesty's Jubilee. This has been an eventful year in the annals of Kathiawar which has given such a loyal welcome to their Royal Highness the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. I trust that next year and its successors may be for your Highness and the other Chiefs years of happy and prosperous rule. (Applause.)

The health of H. H. the Thakore Saheb was then drunk, who replied :—

Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen,—I beg to return my best thanks for the kind manner in which you have drunk my health. I heard with the greatest satisfaction imaginable the glad tidings which you were pleased to announce this afternoon. Words fail me to adequately express my sense of obligation to your Excellency, and through you to her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and her able and worthy Viceroy Lord Dufferin, for the honour which I fully appreciate. I shall only say that my State will keep to its traditions in the future as it has done in the past, and will strive well to deserve the distinction bestowed on it. To your Excellency I am personally indebted for your constant care and friendly advice in everything concerning the good of my State. Your name will be gratefully remembered by the present and future generations of my subjects as well as by me and my successors for the fact of Gondal being recognised as a first-class State in Kathiawar. I once more tender my heartfelt thanks to you all for the honour you have done me. Before I sit down, ladies and gentlemen, I beg to propose the good health of our present popular Political Agent, Colonel Wodehouse. This is a very pleasant task to me, as I have known him for many years. He is an old friend of Kathiawar, and as such has its best interests at heart. The satisfactory settlement arrived at between Porebunder and Gondal, in the matter of the projected extension, was to a great extent due to his good offices and personal influence. But for his sympathies, some of the difficulties in our way could not have been easily overcome. I call upon you, ladies and gentlemen, to join me in drinking the health of Colonel Wodehouse, and I drink to you all and wish you a very happy new year.

This toast being drunk, Colonel Wodehouse responded as follows :—

Your Highness, your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen,—I am gratified that the duty of returning thanks on behalf of your numerous guests should have fallen to my lot, who, as your Highness has just said, am an old friend of your's and of Kathiawar. When a few months ago we were in England together on the occasion of the Jubilee, I observed that people there generally addressed you as your Highness, that being easier for them to say than Thakore Saheb. I knew they were wrong, but after all they were only anticipating by a few months ; and I very heartily congratulate you on the great honour that has been bestowed on your State and upon you as its ruler. And in this I am only saying what we all feel. Your Highness is quite right in stating that I take a warm interest in the railways of the Province. I do, indeed, and in all else that seems to me to be for its welfare. As regards railways I may be wrong, but to me it seems, in a Province like this, bounded on three sides by the sea where trunk lines are unnecessary, that the more we can get the better. Nor do I personally think the evils of a different gauge preponderate so much as elsewhere. Where funds will not admit of a short branch being made metre gauge, we might be contented with something else. We most of us would prefer to travel by the P. and O. ; but if we cannot afford it we fall back on the anchor or some slower line, but we don't give up the journey altogether. A well-laid narrow gauge line is a very great deal better than the tongas and shigrams we now have to use. His Excellency was to-day mentioning how beneficial the arrangements would be that had been arrived at for the working of these lines of railway as a combined railway. I am altogether of the same opinion, and at the meeting which we held here on the 15th instant for the purpose, with Major Gardiner, Mr. Lely, and the other representatives of States, we did, I really think, arrive at a most satisfactory solution of a very complicated question. One of the questions, by-the-bye, we had to determine was what we should christen the railway. Some thought Kathiawar Railway, or Kathiawar metre-gauge Railway would do, but eventually we decided on the very simple name "Bhownugger-Gondal-Junagadh-Porebunder Railway." It may seem to you perhaps a trifle long, but certainly is complete, and that is a great thing. The fact is in Kathiawar we have several States ready to spend their money on railways for the good of their subjects, and it is very natural that the rulers who have been so enterprising should wish that the name of the State should not be effaced by one general name. In course of time probably, as other States join in the same forward policy, some new title will be necessary. Now, your Highness, I must once again thank you on behalf of all of us for your hospitality and for giving us all who are visiting in this Province an opportunity of meeting and becoming acquainted with each other under exceedingly pleasant and auspicious circumstances. May you live long to enjoy the honours accorded to you to-day. To you, ladies and gentlemen, I beg to tender my hearty thanks for the very cordial manner you received the toast of my health, so kindly proposed by his Highness (Applause.)

The proceedings shortly afterwards terminated.

THE SUICIDE OF A BENGAL CIVILIAN.

A most sad and tragical affair occurred on Wednesday morning at the General Hospital, Calcutta. It seems that Mr. H. J. H. Fasson, Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Backerganj, arrived at the Presidency a few days ago, and went to reside with one of the medical officers at the General Hospital. Mr. Fasson was about to take furlough, and intended to proceed to England, his health having been indifferent for some time. Of late more especially he had been suffering from fits of melancholy and general depression of spirits, the result, we believe, of excessive pressure of work, extending over several months. Mr. Larminie, Commissioner of Dacca, perceiving the state of health in which he was, was little out of his company for the past three weeks. There was nothing, however, to cause alarm, and the occurrence of yesterday morning was one of those sudden and terrible blows which no one can foresee. About five o'clock, the residents at the Hospital were startled by the report of a gun, and immediately afterwards Mr. Fasson was discovered lying dead in the verandah, with a gun, wherewith he had dropped from his hand. Dr. Murray and Dr. Clarke were quickly on the spot, but it was found that death had been instantaneous. The deceased arrived in India in November, 1872, was engaged in famine relief duty at Dinagepur, and has done good service as a District Officer. He was an able, popular, and promising servant of Government, and his sad death will be widely mourned, while deep sympathy will be felt everywhere for those who have been so suddenly bereaved. Mr. Fasson leaves a widow and three children.—*Englishman.*

THE MURDER OF HEAD-CONSTABLE WHELEHAN.

At the Winter Assizes in Wicklow, the prosecution for the murder of Head-constable Whelehan broke down. Thomas Leary was indicted for the wilful murder of the head-constable at Ballygastel, near Lisdoonvarna, county Clare, on the 11th September last. He pleaded "Not guilty." A special jury was sworn, 20 jurors being challenged on behalf of the prisoner, and 25 ordered to stand by on the part of the Crown. The Attorney-General, Mr. Pyers White, Q.C., and Mr. Ryan, Q.C., prosecuted. Messrs. O'Shaughnessy, Falconer, Leamy, and John Redmond, M.P., defended.

The Attorney-General, M.P., stated the case for the Crown at considerable length. In the course of his address he referred to the loyalty of Sexton and the state of feeling against him, but was interrupted by Mr. O'Shaughnessy, prisoner's counsel, who objected to his introducing any witness that he could not produce as evidence. The Attorney-General said that he alluded to him in order to show that there was a motive for murdering Sexton because he took the farm of the man named Slattery.

Mr. Justice O'Brien ruled that he was entitled to proceed without introduction.

The Attorney-General then stated that Sexton's cattle had been houghed, a short had been fired at him, his dog had been killed, his servant had received a threatening letter, and neither Sexton nor his mother could buy goods in the district.

At the conclusion of the Attorney-General's address Mr. Justice O'Brien said he gathered from it that the case for the Crown was that it was not the prisoner's hand that struck the blow, and that there was a distinct interval of time between his escape from Constable Connell and the [illegible] another hand of Head-constable [illegible] prisoner was then flying f[illegible] doing so, he was not respon[illegible] ould, therefore, direct t[illegible]

The [illegible]

BENGAL.

Gazette Notifications.—The following notifications are gazetted :—Mr. D. J. Macpherson, Covenanted Deputy Collector, Hughli, is appointed to perform the functions of Collector in that district. The services of Mr. W. Tennon, Officiating Joint-Magistrate, Raniganj, are placed at the disposal of the Government of India in the Home Department. Mr. A. W. Mackie, Joint-Magistrate, Dinagepur, is appointed to act as Judge of that district. Mr. C. J. S. Faulder is appointed to act in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates, and is posted to Sarun. Mr. C. W. E. Pittar, Officiating Joint-Magistrate, Kattak, is transferred to Nazirabad. Mr. H. Savage is appointed to act in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates, and is posted to Kattak. Mr. W. H. Lee is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate in the Orissa Division, and is posted to Kattak. Lieutenant W. Skinner, Northern Bengal Volunteer Rifle Corps, is allowed leave of absence to England on private affairs for one year. Mr. H. Lee, Joint-Magistrate, is appointed to act in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates, and is posted to Midnapur. Mr. H. G. W. Herron, who has recently been appointed as a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate at Patna. Mr. F. W. R. Cowley, Officiating Judicial Commissioner, Chota Nagpur, is confirmed in that appointment. Mr. R. H. G. Irvine, District Superintendent of Police, Mazafarpur, is allowed leave for one month, and Mr. P. A. Sandilands, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Mazafarpur, is appointed to act in his place. Mr. W. A. Gayer, Officiating Assistant Superintendent of Police, is posted to Patna. The Reverend S. B. Taylor is appointed to be Chaplain of St. Thomas Church, Calcutta. The Reverend S. L. G. Sandberg is appointed to act temporarily as Chaplain at Dakka. Surgeon D. G. Crawford is appointed to act as Civil Surgeon of Bakarganj. Surgeon-Major S. H. Carter is appointed to the charge of the civil medical duties at Barrackpur.

MOROCCO.

The *Westminster Review* gives some interesting facts about a little known Empire :—

Morocco is, speaking approximately, one-fourth larger than France ; its climate is hardly to be surpassed by any in the world, while the situation of a portion of its northern boundary on the Straits of Gibraltar, and commanding the entrance to them, render it, in a strategical sense, one of the most important of the different positions on the Mediterranean. That this is so, especially as regards England, becomes readily understood when it is remembered that our shortest road to India lies through three narrow gates, the nearest to us being the Straits of Gibraltar ; the other two, the Suez Canal and the mouth of the Red Sea. How essential then it becomes to us that each one of these positions should be, if not in our possession, at least in not unfriendly hands.

It is not only, however, the agricultural, pastoral, and mineral abundance of Morocco, but the diversity of her products which gives promise of future commercial wealth ; for the physical geography as well as the temperature and soil of the country are all varied in the extreme. The imposing mountain chains of the greater and lesser Atlas are in many places capped with snow for the greater part of the year other magnificent mountain systems of various degrees of altitude extend through different parts of the land, and, owing to this cause, Morocco possesses the advantage of having within her boundaries every description of climate from that of the north of Europe in some localities to that of the tropics in the southern plains of the Empire. Western Barbary also enjoys a marked superiority over Algeria in one particular : the former territory, owing to the proximity of the Atlantic, and, possibly, to a greater extent of hill country, is plentifully watered by streams and rivulets which do not dry up in the summer, as those in the French possessions do but, flowing through the entire year produce the amount of moisture which under the genial sun of North Africa made the Roman Mauritania so proverbially fertile. It can easily be understood that owing to the above-mentioned conditions the combination of climate and soil is capable of producing alike the hardy cereals of Northern Europe, together with the aromatic spices and luscious fruits rivalling those from the luxuriant plantations and rich tropical gardns of India. Indeed, the climate is in every sense exceptionally good, and along the northern and north-western coasts it is more temperate than in many parts of Spain. In the interior (except on the mountain heights or plateaus) the heat is much greater during the summer, but, owing to the air being light and dry, it is not too oppressive.

There good evidence that Morocco is teeming with mineral wealth, but prospecting parties of Europeans are jealously watched by the native Government, which claims exclusive right over all the mines throughout the Empire. It is known that gold and silver exist, also tin, lead, copper, iron, quicksilver, antimony, sulphur, and coal ; rock salt is found in various mountainous districts, as well as some marble quarries, and in the [illegible] crystal. Petroleum has also been discovered, and gives promise of being an important industry.

The chief agricultural products of the country are wheat, barley, maize, argan oil, olive oil, esparto grass, peas, beans, and [illegible] grain used by the natives as food. The absence of frost and the general character of the soil and climate in the plains and broad fertile valleys are peculiarly favourable to horticultural industry, so much so that, under a proper governmental administration, it is not too much to say Morocco would be capable of supplying, in a great measure, the fruit markets of Europe ; even at present the produce grown almost entirely for home consumption is abundant and varied, consisting chiefly of oranges of different kinds, lemons, dates, peaches, plums, apricots, grapes, figs, pomegranates, mulberries, and olives. It is said that along the lower slopes of the Atlas mountains coffee could be successfully grown, and that various parts of the country are suitable for tea plantations. If the latter article can be produce in any quantity, the close proximity of the great centres of demand in Europe, and especially those of England, would unquestionably render the crop one of the most valuable in Morocco, and enormous profits would be realized on capital expended. The sugar-cane was introduced into Morocco by the Arabs during the Middle Ages ; it would grow extremely well in many districts, particularly to the south, and in former years the plantations represented a considerable industry, but the crop also represented wealth, and exposed the owners to extortion from government officials ; therefore, the plantations were gradually disused, and one of the most remunerative products of West Barbary became a thing of the past.

There has been a sharp fight among the Mahomedans at the Educational Congress now being held at Lucknow. On Tuesday afternoon the venerable Syed Ahmed brought forward a motion that the foundation of small schools, with insufficient funds and bad teachers, was a mistake, but he met with fierce opposition, and the Congress adjourned. The discussion was resumed on Wednesday, the motion was attacked even more vigorously than on the previous day, and when at length a division was taken, it was negatived by the large majority of 200 to 20.

There are many who will regret to hear of the death of M. Edouard Remenyi, the brilliant Hungarian violinist, who visited India two cold seasons ago. A telegram in a New York paper, dated the 24th of October, states that he was drowned in a shipwreck off the Madagascar coast. Remenyi was 62 years of age, and leaves a wife and two sons. He had been engaged for several years past on a world-wide tour, the object of which was the collection of art wares to be placed in the Museum presented by him to his native city of Buda-Pesth.

It is perhaps not generally known that a woman has been employed in the Vaccination establishment of Calcutta since 1884. She was entertained on the proposition of Surgeon-General E. Balfour, although the Sanitary Commissioner did not look on the idea with favour. The question turned on the desirability of making allowance for zenana prejudices, or, on the other hand, on the probability that those prejudices were disappearing, and that there was no need to take them into consideration. Assuming these considerations to be evenly balanced, there was the standing objection to the employment of a woman to go from house to house among the native families. The practical results of this vaccinator's efforts have so far been very small : during the past year she operated on only 107 adult Hindu and Mahomedan women. But now that the amended compulsory Vaccination Act is in force, there will be a better opportunity of seeing whether her employment serves any useful purpose.

Prof. John S. Blackie has vigorously flourished the whip of scorn over the heads of some "unco' guid" people in Scotland who consider that a refined and emasculated revision of Burn's song, "The deil's awa wi' the Exciseman," would be an improvement. Writing to a correspondent, the venerable Professor is sorry he should have people in his neighbourhood "so destitute of the Scotch virtue of humour as to call Burn's comic song about the exciseman "blasphemous." Such language tends to make religion ridiculous and Scotsmen contemptible. As for persons in "fashionable society" who dispise their native Scottish songs and prefer to soak their weak stomachs with the sentimental syllabubs of the most recent London market, one can only pity them, and pray for their conversion to better mind."

A KING'S ASHES.

On Wednesday morning last, the ashes of the late ruler of Gwalior were consigned to the Ganges without the walls of Allahabad Fort. Scindia died in June of last year, and, shortly after the cremation, the main portion of the ashes were taken to the water. Yesterday's function, the disposal of what remained (it is impossible not to be horrible in dealing with such a subject) was comparatively of an unimportant nature ; but sufficiently grim to witness.

Beyond the melon-beds and *chappar* villages that stand upon the spit of sunbaked mud and sand at the confluence of the Jumna and the Ganges, lies a flag-bedizened home of *faquirs, gurus, gosains sanyasis* and the like. A stone's throw from this place boils and eddies the line of demarcation between the pure green waters of the Jumna and the turbid current of the Ganges ; and here they brought the ashes of Scindia. With these came minor functionaries of the Gwalior State, Rao Sahib Mavi, and Babu Sahib Khasgi, with six Brahmins of the Court and nine of Scindia's relatives. In his lifetime, the Maharaja had a deep and rooted distrust of his own family and clan, and no Scindia was ever allowed office about him. Indeed, so great was his aversion, that he would not even permit them to die in the Lushkar, or city of Gwalior. They must needs go out when their last hour came, and die in a neighbouring *jaghir* village which belonged to Sir Michael Filose, one of that Italian family which has served the State so long and faithfully. When such an one had died, Scindia, by his own command, was not informed of the event till the prescribed days of mourning had elapsed. Then notice was given to him by the placing of his bed on the ground—a sign of mourning—and he would ask, not too tenderly : "Which Scindia is dead ?"

Considering this unamiable treatment, the wonder was that so many as nine of his own kin could be found to attend the last rites on that sun dried mud-bank. There was, or seemed to be, no attempt at ceremony and, naturally enough, no pretence at grief ; nor was there any gathering of native notables. The common crowd and the multitude of priests had the spectacle to themselves, if one except a few Artillerymen from the Fort who had strolled down to see what was happening to "one of them (qualified) kings." By ten o'clock, a tawdry silken litter bearing the ashes and accompanied by the mourners, had reached the water's edge where wooden *faquirs' chowpays* had been run out into the stream, and where the water decorated boats had been employed to carry the press of sight-seers. Underfoot, the wet ground was trodden by hundreds of feet into a slimy pulp of mud and stale flowers of sacrifice ; and on this compost slipped and blundered a fine white horse whose fittings were heavy with bosses of new silver. He, and a big elephant, adorned with a necklace of silver plaques, was a gift to the priests who in cash and dinners would further profit to the extent of between eight and ten thousand rupees by the day's work.

Overhead, a hundred *faquirs'* flags, bearing devices of gods, beasts, and the trident of Shiva fluttered in the air ; while all round, like vultures drawn by carrion, crowded the priests. There were burly, bull-necked freshly-oiled ruffians, look as to paunch and jowl, clothed in pure white linen ; mad wandering mendicants carrying the peacock's feather, the begging bowl and the patched cloak ; salmon-robed *sanyasis* from up-country, and evil-eyed *gosains* from the south. They crowded upon the wooden bedsteads, piled themselves upon the boats, and jostled into the first places in the crowd in the mud, and all their eyes were turned towards two nearly naked men who seemed to be kneading some flavor in their hands and dropping it into the water. The closely-packed boats rocked gently, the crowd babbled and buzzed, and uncouth music wailed and shrieked, while from behind the sullen, squat bulk of Allahabad Fort, the booming of minute-guns announced that the Imperial Government was paying honour to the memory of His Highness Maharaja Jyaji Rao Scindia, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., once owner of twenty thousand square miles of land, nearly three million people, and treasure untold if all tales be true. Not fifty yards up stream, a swollen dead goat was bobbing up and down in the water in a ghastly parody on kidlike skittishness ; and green filth was cast ashore by every little wave.

Was there anything more to see ? The white horse refused to be led into the water and splashed all the bystanders with dirt, and the elephant's weight broke up the sand it was standing on and turned it to a bog. That much was visible but little else ; for the clamouring priests forbade any English foot to come too near, perhaps for fear that their gains might be lessened. Where the press parted, it was possible to catch a glimpse of this ghoulish kneading by the naked men in the boat and to hear the words of the the chanted prayer. But that was all.—*Pioneer.*

BRITISH AND BOMBAY YARN IN CHINA.

The constantly increasing imports of Bombay cotton yarn to China, with the consequent decrease in British yarn, is exciting much uneasiness in Lancashire. Various commissioners of Chinese customs refer to the subject in their reports for the past year. The commissioner at Chefoo notes the steady rapidity with which the import of cotton yarn is increasing. In 1885 it was 39,881 piculs, in 1886 it was 56,725 piculs, showing an increase greater than the total import to Chefoo in 1883, and the import of 1886 was five times that of 1882. The increase, however, is all in Bombay yarn, which appears destined to oust the native article. From Kiukiang, on the Yang-tse, the news is much the same. "The importation of yarn," says the commissioner, "which has been steadily increasing during the past five years, made a still more important advance in the year under review." The place of origin, whether Bombay or England, is not specified here. The most striking figures are those from Shanghai. Cotton yarn at that port "showed a general increase of 34,473 piculs, but while that from English mills exhibited a decline of 58,456 piculs, the Indian staple shows an increase of 92,627, so that it would seem that not only is the Indian article gaining favour in the China markets, but it is doing so at the expense of the British yarn, which it threatens to displace." At Swatow, lower down the coast, the import of yarn showed a falling-off—trade having been generally depressed at that port—but "English yarn is being almost entirely supplanted by the cheaper thread from Bombay." In Kiungchow, in Hainan, the place of foreign piece-goods is taken by Japanese cotton cloth, native manufactures from Bombay, yarn, and raw cotton. In Pakhoi, the most southern treaty port in China, large quantities of yarn were bartered for Yunnan opium, but it is not stated whether the former was British or from Bombay. The explanation given in China of the cheapness of Bombay yarn—which, of course, accounts for its success—is that labour is cheaper in India than here, and that there is no loss on exchange between China and Bombay.

THE WRECK OF THE ASCALON.

The P. and O. steamer Clyde, arrived at Plymouth on Dec. 2 from Australia, brought home from Colombo Mr. W. Kell, chief officer, Mr. W. Wrightson, second officer, and two of the crew of Messrs. Milburn and Co.'s steamship Ascalon, of London, 2,351 tons register, Captain Vincent, which was wrecked on the coast of Ceylon. The Ascalon left Aden on October 3 with a cargo of salt for Calcutta, having a crew of 32 hands all told. She experienced fine weather up to the night of the 12th of October, when it was very squally. Early next morning it became very thick, and two hours later the man on the look-out reported breakers ahead." Almost immediately the ship, which was going at the rate of nine knots, struck a sunken reef, first lightly and then heavily, ripping the bottom clean open. She filled and sank in four fathoms of water on the Hicadore Rocks, 14 miles north of Galle. All the crew were saved in their own boats, and pulled to Galle. An inquiry was held into the loss of the vessel at Galle, and after hearing all the evidence the Court suspended the second officer's certificate for six months for not calling the captain when the weather became thick, and for proceeding at too high speed in hazy weather. Land had not been observed after passing Socotra, and the Court found that the vessel was 22 miles north of her true position which they attributed to strong currents. The captain and engineers were left at Galle with a view of salving the wreck, but this is thought impossible.

The Civil Surgeon, of the Dacca District, has made some pungent remarks in connexion with a serious outbreak of cholera in certain sub-divisions of the district, where the ways of the people are specially conducive to disease. "In my experience," he says, "it is hopeless to expect villagers to adopt any prophylactic measures whatever. They will persist, in spite of all our efforts, in drinking foul water, even if they are in a position to obtain river water ; and to expect them to boil or filter water, to clean a drain, to leave an infected spot temporarily, even to drink proplylactic doses of acid sulphuric dilute, if given them (as is issued daily to every convict) is utopian. Issue sulphur and direct them to burn it in their houses and near the bed of a cholera patient, and it will be done so long only as it is done for them. In short, it is impossible to help people who obstinately refuse to help themselves, or even to meet you half way towards it."

"ATLANTIC" SEA SALT strongly recommended as a substitute "for a dip in the sea" and "a gift of the briny." Rs. 1-4, PHILLIPS and Co., Ld. Bombay and Poona.

A SHINTO FESTIVAL AT NAGASAKI.

The following description of a Shinto festival at Nagasaki appears in the *St. James's Gazette* :—

Arriving at Nagasaki late on the 10th of October, I went ashore next morning and found that the religious festival known as the *Suwa no matsuri* was going on. The festival takes place annually about this time, and extends over three days. On October 9th the emblems of the local Shinto deity of Nagasaki, named O-Suwa, were carried in solemn procession from the temple to a temporary erection on the sea-shore, at a spot known as Ohata. Here they remained for a day and a night ; and this day, the 10th of October, was set apart for rest and devotion. This afternoon the emblems were to be brought back to the temple, and the day was being devoted to general recreation and dancing. The ceremonies appeared to depend on some very ancient Shinto myth ; they have been performed from time immemorial, but their precise significance seems to have been forgotten : certainly none of my Japanese informants had any knowledge on the subject.

The town of Nagasaki is divided into seventy-seven wards, on eleven of which falls annually the burden of providing for the festival ; so that in seven years each part of the town has borne its share. As we traversed the town we observed that the streets in those wards whose turn it was this year were decorated with hangings of gay cotton cloth, and with foliaged bamboos arranged along the fronts of the houses ; while the houses themselves were mostly thrown open, their owners entertaining numerous friends. Several times we encountered parties of men carrying huge umbrellalike structures, with a central pole of bamboo and rich hangings : on the top of each was a sort of platform on which were gigantic papier-miche or straw models of fish, plants, etc ; these were the emblems of the various wards.

Presently we arrived at a small Shinto temple. Passing under the sacred arch, a long flight of steps led up to the building on each side of this flight large bamboo stands had been erected, which, as well as the steps, were densely crowded. At the foot of the steps was a cleared space, and here on our arrival a company of youthful wrestlers were performing. The space was marked out by four bamboo-poles, one at each corner, with a broad strip of cloth running from one to another round it sat some twenty nearly naked lads, from ten to twelve years old, forming a circle round a large mat strewn with earth. The centre was for the moment occupied by a lad richly attired in the costume of an ancient *samurai*, with two swords projecting from his girdle and in his hands the somewhat heart-shaped emblem of the wrestling fraternity. After making some remarks in a clear shrill voice he retired, and then about a dozen lads occupied the arena and went through a sort of posture-dance. This over two wrestlers stepped into the ring and prepared for the encounter. They crouched down facing each other and slapping their thighs. Presently one trid to push the other over ; but failing, each rose and walked round the ring, making gestures and occasionally stopping to take a drink of water. Then they again crouched down, and then suddenly sprang at each other. One was dexterously thrown ; and the pair retired, to be followed by another. Each endeavoured to throw his antagonist or to push him out of the ring ; the audience looking on with great interest. Presently the wrestlers took up their gear, shouldered their poles, and started off to perambulate the town. Their place we taken by a large party of men, each of whom had a huge carp depicted on his gown, dragging or pshing along a full-sized model of a fishing boat running on wheels. The boat was occupied by about ten youngsters, some of whom were belabouring a hup drum, other smaller ones. The men rushed the boat backwards and forwards, and then twirled it round and round on a vertical axis, till it seemed that its occupants must suffer worse agonies than those of sea-sickness ; but they did not appear to be distressed. The boat was then wheeled away, and its place occupied by a rapidly-put-together stage with three very simple and yet well-designed and well-painted drop-scenes. Half a dozen juvenile actors, in huge wigs and gorgeous dresses of silk and embroidery, disembarked from the boat and took their places on the stage. Several comic pieces were represented, giving great amusement to the audience. As I could not understand them, I began to study the spectators. Overhead was a cloudless blue sky, and the whole lively scene was flooded with brilliant sunshine ; the predominant colour of the crowd was blue, relieved by the white uniforms of some police-officers and by the brilliant yellow dresses of a few Chinamen. Not an item of this crowd but was worthy of inspection. Here you saw a wrinkled brown old crone, showing her toothless gums as she grinned with delight ; there a less mature dame whose well-blacked and polished teeth showed that she might be the mother of the two merry youngsters beside her dressed in bright flowered garments ; and then again your eyes rest on many a charming costume dressed in the becoming native garb with judiciously disposed bits of brilliant but harmonious colour. Beautiful [illegible] were there, and their shapely white teeth—a beauty which changing custom no longer obliges them to part with. Brawny-limbed coolies were there, their muscles developed by work which in England is reserved for horses ; nor was there any lack of the representatives of young Japan, proudly conscious of the shirts and collars and their suits of dittoes. Presently the actors dismantled and removed their theatre, the crowd dispersed, and we directed our steps towards the Bronze Horse Temple, as it was now close on the time when the god was to be brought back in procession from the sea-shore.

The temple of O-Suwa—known to foreigners as the Bronze Horse Temple, from a crudely executed nearly life-size metal votive offering which stands in the court-yard—is built some way up the side of one of the hills which enclose the valley in which lies the greater part of the town. About 120 wide steps, divided into several flights, constitute the main approach from below. The temple itself like most Shinto buildings, is simply built of wood and is almost entirely devoid of ornaments and of religious symbols ; the hill above the temple is beautifully wooded, and the land on each side is laid out in public gardens. On our arrival we found a crowd of several thousand persons. By clambering up a wall we secured a precarious footing near the top of the great flight of steps, commanding an excellent view. Presently loud shouts announced the arrival of the procession, and then appeared two palanquinlike structures, closed with curtains. Each was placed on a framework formed of black lacquered poles and carried by some fifty or sixty men ; a few priests preceded the cortege. As they were rapidly carried up the steps I observed that a small proportion of the crowd—mostly the elderly people—clapped their hands and bowed reverently ; the greater part looked on with indifference or curiosity. A crowd of people followed the procession into the temple, and paid their devotions to the deity, whose emblems were removed from the arks and restored to the sanctum, not to be moved thence till next October.

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN GERMAN FACTORIES.

The reports of the German Factory Inspectors for the past year refer, by special instruction from the German Home Office, to the employment of women in factories, its physical and moral effects on girls, and to the methods which might be adopted, with or without the co-operation of the masters, for the education of the girls in domestic duties. From the statistics, it appears that while the employment of children has increased from 18,882 in 1884 to 21,053 in 1886, that of the youth of both sexes has diminished. Girls and female children are mainly employed in the textile and clothing industries. The inspector for the Berlin-Charlottenburg district notices a great increase in the employment of children between the ages of 12 and 14, and suspects that the work, especially in and about brick-kilns, is attended with moral deterioration, and other inspectors are of a like opinion. The provisions of the law protecting children are becoming better known, and where the inspection is thorough and effective (as for instance in Saxony) there is little to complain of. But in Saxony, as in other places, children are constantly employed under the legal age of 12. The inspector at Dusseldorf found children only four years old in polishers', harness makers', and weavers' establishments, but the relatives alleged that the children were there in their care, although the marks on their hands showed that they were working. He also found children of from three to 12 years of age playing about in factories where there was unfenced machinery in motion. The inspectors complain also that the legal hours of labour for children are not observed, especially in the textile industry. The employment of women. It has increased by about 8 per cent. in a year. About 90 per cent. are employed in the textile, clothing, paper, leather, and food industries. The increase has mainly taken place in the cigar factories, where it is becoming the general practice to replace men by women, who work for lower wages and are otherwise more satisfactory. In beet-root sugar starch and match factories the women have decreased, while in the manufacture of ornaments and *bijouterie* there is an increase Women usually object much more than men to an extension of the hours of labour, and in many cases employers have to agree to the women going home before the usual midday rest. There was a decrease in the amount of night work, and in some places it had ceased altogether. In reference to work done at home, the inspectors are unanimous in saying that it is in practice harder than that done in factories. The hours are longer, overtime and night work are more common.

A FAITHFUL KA FFIR MAIDEN.

The following is said to be a true story of a Kaffir maiden's adventures :—

A father who had been unfortunate and had lost all his wealth was importuned to give up his two daughters for wives to the master who had befriended him in his necessities. He had no power, even if he had the will, to resist the demand ; so in due time the daughters were sent to their intended lord's kraal. They would not go into the hut, until at last they were forcibly carried in. It was night, and one of the girls, worn out with fatigue and weeping, had fallen asleep. But if she slept her sister was awake, and determined to be free. Her eyes turned toward the distant land of Natal, for among those of her tribe who had taken refuge there was a certain young man with whom she had been acquainted from childhood, and who had obtained possession of her heart before that evil day which had compelled him to run for his life. When she thought the fit moment had come, Uzinto released herself from her bonds, and taking up her mat crept out of the hut. She determined to make a way over or through the fence ; and this being done, she ran across the dewy grass and began her journey. Soonafter daylight she met a party of men who asked where she was going. She replied without hesitation that she was going to see a relative among the Amakoba ; but there were marks of tears upon her face, and her questioners insisted to know why she had been weeping. It was easy to say that she had been taking snuff ; but they were not satisfied with this explanation, and expressed their conviction that she was a fugitive on the forbidden journey to Natal. Her denial of this assertion being vehement and vigorous, she was allowed to proceed. When Uzinto reached the country of the Amakoba the sun was setting, and she had no choice but to enter a kraal and solicit permission to remain for the night. The events of the last few days were known here, and the people easily divined that she was absconding. They told her plainly that they should send a messenger to her husband in the morning, and detain her until the answer had been received. She was too well secured to escape during the night, and next morning, after the messenger had been sent, she was committed to the custody of the women of the kraal. These had their own business to attend to, and contented themselves with leaving her bound in the hut. After a time she severed her bonds and again set forth. Before she had gone far, however, a boy in charge of the cattle saw her, and immediately ran to inform the women. These, who were at work in the garden, threw down their picks and commenced a hot pursuit. They had not much difficulty in catching the fugitive, but she wept, begged them to kill her, and behaved so extraordinarily that the women allowed her to escape.

She now determined to avoid the kraals, and travel as much as possible in the bush. A terrible fright caused by a leopard was the only incident she met with, and at the end of the fourth day she forded the river Tugela, very tired and very hungry. Uzinto now went to a kraal to obtain food, and to discover where her people lived. The owner saw that she was a fugitive, and thought it a fine opportunity to gain a wife without expense. She declined to become an inmate of his house, and abode with one of his wives for the night. The jealous wife communicated to her the information she wanted, and told her that the man wished to deceive her. When Uzinto departed in the morning the master of the kraal met her and again endeavoured to persuade her to return. He was rich ; she should have plenty of milk and plenty of beef ; she had only to become his wife to be happy and honoured. She listened in silence, and went on her way to her own people, where she was received by the chief as one of his wards. Then began her search for her lover. His brother's kraal adjoined her new home, and one morning, meeting her lover's favourite nephew, affecting not to know him, she said that his face was not altogether strange to her, and she wondered where she had seen him. The boy did not think she had seen him anywhere, and when she suggested the Folosi river he told her he had never been there. The truth was, the shrewd urchin knew her and wanted to make her more explicit and say whose nephew he was. She found that her lover was many miles away. The boy took a message from her, and her lover's reply was favourable, though no present accompanied it ; and when Uzinto thought thereon her heart was sad. Meantime two suitors paid her unremitting attention, but she turned a deaf ear to their prayers. After a while her lover came back, but the offended maiden would not deign to speak to him ; and when he became sick she attended to him, but in silence. After his recovery she took a little girl and set out for his kraal under cover of the night, that she might have an interview without creating suspicion. The entrance was close, but she threw a stone upon the hut. Then after a scene with her lover, she fixed her value at ten cows, told him when he had worked long enough to obtain that number she would come to his kraal and be betrothed. Sometimes afterward she appeared unexpectedly at her lover's kraal and demanded to be betrothed. But the [illegible] afraid to kill the [illegible] and a messenger being sent to their chief she was obliged to go back. Again, however, she appeared at her lover's hut, and this time, in spite of the chief's rights, the goat was killed and she became the wife of her old lover.

SIGNS OF TRADE IMPROVEMENT.

Among other signs of a revival of trade the improvement in the sugar trade on the Clyde during the past two months has been very marked, and prices which have risen 1s. per cwt. in October, from 1. 6d, to 2s. in November, and from 1s. to 1s. 6d. since the 1st instant, have now secured an advance of from 3s. 6d. to 4s. per cwt. in little over two months. This rise is equal to 3/. 10s. to 4/. per ton, and on the 35,000 odd tons of sugar in stores at Greenock it represents an improvement in value to the extent of nearly 140,000/. The grain trade continues strong at the leading Scottish ports and exchanges. Prices for American and South Russian wheats have been advanced during the fortnight. The improvement in the general demand in the London top trade continues, and a great many medium hops have left the growers' hands. The excitement in the London metal markets continues, and in many articles a large business is being done at prices which a few weeks ago would have been considered very extreme. In an article on the situation *The World* says :—"On the Stock Exchange there is more business, a far more hopeful tone, and a general improvement in prices." Information received in Dundee stated that the representatives in America of a Dundee cattle company had within the last fortnight sold a large number of cattle at prices considerably improved from previous quotations. The manager of the Company in America also reports an improved feeling in the trade, especially in regard to contracts for next spring. The prospects of the shipbuilding trade at West Hartlepool are now considerably brighter than for some time past, work being in hand for five months. Further dividends have been issued by Wolverhampton manufacturers advancing prices. Iron-plate workers have announced 5 per cent. reduction in discounts on galvanised goods, and other departments of local industry have made similar discount reductions.

AN ENGLISH DEPUTATION TO IRELAND.

The Exchange Telegraph Company learns that the deputation from the English Home Rule Union which recently visited Ireland have drawn up a report on the subject which will be shortly presented to the Union. The conclusions arrived at are as follow :—

1. That the Irish people are eager for peace, and that they abhor and dread outrage as much as Englishmen do.

2. That their demands as well in respect of the land as of the national question are distinguished by extraordinary moderation.

3. That the National League, proclaimed as a dangerous association, is the chief agency for the maintenance of law and order in Ireland.

4. That political meetings in Ireland are more orderly and well conducted than they are in England and Scotland, and that the only danger to a breach of the peace is the irritating display of force on the part of the authorities.

5. That the Irish Nationalists, like the English Home Rulers, are Home Rulers and not Separatists.

6. That in Ulster the great majority of the people who are opposed to Home Rule will when Home Rule is granted forget past differences ; that considerations of common interest will take them to join with their fellow countrymen in carrying on the government of Ireland, and that they themselves, even now, are well aware that this will be the case.

7. That, as a matter of fact, nobody in Ire